Daily Report

Soviet Union

FBIS-SOV-91-156
Tuesday
13 August 1991

Daily Report
Soviet Union

FBIS-SOV-91-156 *13 August 1991*

CONTENTS

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

ARMS CONTROL & DISARMAMENT

Officials, Media Discuss START Treaty Issues 1
Dzasokhov Voices Optimism *[Moscow International]* 1
Yazov Describes Implications *[RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA 13 Aug]* 1
Writer on U.S. ABM Plans *[TASS]* 2
Security Benefit Questioned *[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 10 Aug]* 3
Commentary Views U.S. Arms Supply Abroad *[Moscow International]* 5

WORLDWIDE ISSUES

Foreign Ministry on Turkish-Iraqi Developments *[INTERFAX]* 6
Official Sees 'Encouraging Signs' in Yugoslavia *[Moscow TV]* 6
Ministry Spokesman Discusses 'University Forum' *[TASS]* 6
IMF Envoys Depart; Foreign Ministry Comments *[INTERFAX]* 7
EBRD Delegation Concludes Visit 9 Aug *[INTERFAX]* 7
IZVESTIYA Correction to KAL-007 Location *[8 Aug]* 7

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

United States & Canada

Deputy Foreign Minister, U.S. Diplomat Meet *[TASS]* 8
U.S. Refusal To Lift Cocom Restrictions Viewed *[Moscow Radio]* 8

China

Visiting Chief of Staff Meets Yazov, Moiseyev *[TASS]* 8

Northeast Asia

Moscow Welcomes UN Decision on Korean States *[TASS]* 9
Radio Supports DPRK Denuclearization Proposal *[Moscow International]* 9

Near East & South Asia

PRAVDA Views Moves for Mideast Peace Talks *[9 Aug]* 9
Pakistan Talks Lead Mujahidin To Release POW 10
Soviet Prisoner Handed Over *[Moscow Radio]* 10
To Return 13 Aug *[INTERFAX]* 11
Kozyrev Concludes Visit *[Moscow International]* 11
Further on Talks *[TASS]* 11
Article Views Negotiations *[INTERFAX]* 12
USSR To Restore Diplomatic Ties With Israel *[Moscow TV]* 12
Further on Soyuz Delegation's Visit to Iraq 12
Delegate Alleges U.S. 'Bribe' *[Moscow TV]* 12
'Admiration' for Saddam Criticized *[IZVESTIYA 12 Aug]* 13
Article Urges 'Leniance, Kindness' Toward Iraq *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 7 Aug]* 13
Commentator Views Release of Western Hostages *[Moscow International]* 14

Sub-Saharan Africa

Minister Discusses Results of South Africa Visit *[TASS]* 14
Yanayev Receives Delegation From Sierra Leone *[Moscow TV]* 15
Seamen Stranded in Nigeria To Receive Help *[IZVESTIYA 3 Aug]* 15

East Europe

Soviet Naval Ship Visits Varna, Bulgaria *[TASS]* 15
Kuptsov Receives Czech Party Chairman Svoboda *[PRAVDA 8 Aug]* 15
Hungary's Antall on Conflicting Financial Claims *[IZVESTIYA 7 Aug]* 16
Group Completes Inquiry Into Shooting of Poles *[TASS]* 16

West Europe

Turkish Minister Cited on Relations With USSR *[TASS]* 16
Soviet Sailor Seeks Asylum in Shetland Islands *[London PRESS ASSOCIATION]* 17
Yanayev Receives FRG's Modrow 5 Aug *[IZVESTIYA 6 Aug]* 17
Laptev Receives Swiss Parliamentarian Nebiker *[TASS]* 17

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Political & Social

Gorbachev Endorses State Property Fund *[Moscow TV]* 18
Fund Outlined *[TASS]* 18
NOVOYE VREMYA Rebuts Shenin Criticism *[No. 30]* 18
Deputies' Group Reviews Meskhetian Turks' Plight *[IZVESTIYA 8 Aug]* 19
Zhirinovskiy Negative on Departyization Decree *[TASS]* 20
CPSU Rebuffs Paper's Allegations on Finances *[PRAVDA 12 Aug]* 20
PRAVDA Answers Criticisms Voiced by Readers *[7 Aug]* 21
TASS Reviews 13 Aug Soviet Central Press 23

Economic

Government Establishes Moscow Oil Exchange *[INTERFAX]* 24
Churilov Foresees Problems *[IZVESTIYA 3 Aug]* 24
Ryabev: Fuel Prices Must Increase *[INTERFAX]* 24
Change in Oil Industry Funding Viewed *[IZVESTIYA 7 Aug]* 25
Formation of Automobile Commission Announced *[TASS]* 25
Cabinet Views Harvest, Import, Energy Problems *[TASS]* 26
TASS Cites Pavlov News Conference 26
Aviation Official on Grounding's Economic Effects *[IZVESTIYA 7 Aug]* 27
Shortages Slow Combine Harvester Production *[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 6 Aug]* 28
Food Supply Problems for North, Far East Eyed *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 8 Aug]* 29
'Intourist' Transformed Into Joint Stock Company *[Moscow TV]* 29
Procedure for Entrepreneurs' Registration Adopted *[IZVESTIYA 8 Aug]* 30
Construction Industry Output Declines 21 Percent *[Moscow Radio]* 30
International Information Exchange Created *[IZVESTIYA 6 Aug]* 30

Agriculture

Minister Chernoivanov Comments on Farm Problems *[Moscow TV]* 31
Stroyev Rebuts Talk of 'Winter of Hunger' *[Moscow TV]* 31
Stavropol Kray Grain Harvesting Completed *[PRAVDA 6 Aug]* 32
Tomsk Oblast Harvest Termed Big But 'Difficult' *[IZVESTIYA 6 Aug]* 33
Farmers' Reluctance To Hand Over Grain Noted *[Moscow International]* 34

Scientific

Nuclear Researcher on Defense Conversion Problems *[IZVESTIYA 3 Aug]* 34
Leningrad Designers Develop New Aircraft *[INTERFAX]* 35
Airliner To Rescue Scientists in Antarctica *[TASS]* 36

Military

Official Denies Threat of Military Coup *[Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND 12 Aug]* 36
Rutskoy Expulsion From CPSU Cited *[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 9 Aug]* 36
Yazov, Shlyaga Anniversary Message to Guards *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 6 Aug]* 37
Destruction Plans for Chemical Arms Store Reported *[Moscow Radio]* 38

BALTIC REPUBLICS

Estonia

Republic Not To Take Part in 16 Aug Meeting *[BALTFAX]* 39
Republic, Soviet Premiers To Meet 12 Aug *[BALTFAX]* 39
12 Aug Meeting With Pavlov Delayed *[BALTFAX]* 39
Popular Front, Democratic Russia Groups Meet *[INTERFAX]* 39
People's Front Head on Similarities *[Tallinn Radio]* 39
More on Democratic Russia Visit *[Radio Vilnius]* 40
Minister Leimann on Economic Pact With Soviets *[BALTFAX]* 40
Supreme Council To Open Session 12 Aug *[BALTFAX]* 40
Parliament Does Not Discuss Premier's Resignation *[BALTFAX]* 40
Cities' Communists Approve Self-Governing Status *[BALTFAX]* 40
Republics To Hold Molotov-Ribbentrop Conference *[BALTFAX]* 41
Republic Police Release Latest Crime Figures *[BALTFAX]* 41
Eleven Republic Police Cadets 'Criminals' *[BALTFAX]* 41

Latvia

Republic Parliament Discusses Annual Report *[BALTFAX]* 41
Amendments to Republic Penal Code Discussed *[BALTFAX]* 41
PRC Consul General To Visit Riga 11-12 Aug *[BALTFAX]* 41
USSR Grants Aid To Repair Riga TV Tower *[Riga Radio]* 42
New Independent Radio Station Opens in Riga *[Moscow Radio]* 42
Soviet Scholarships 'Abolished' in Republic *[BALTFAX]* 42

Lithuania

Landsbergis Stresses Not Signing Union Treaty *[Moscow Radio]* 42
Report on Witnesses to Medininkai Killings *[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 10 Aug]* 42
More on 8 Aug Pro-OMON Rally Held in Vilnius *[PRAVDA 9 Aug]* 42
Official Says USSR Training 'Terrorist Groups' *[Stockholm Radio]* 43
Democratic Russia Urges Removal of OMON *[Radio Rossii]* 43
Communist Party Leaders' Homes To Be Searched *[Moscow International]* 43
Republic Objects to Power Engineering Decision *[Radio Vilnius]* 44
'Unidentified Individuals' Cut Power Lines *[Radio Vilnius]* 44
Reports of Tanks in Pabrade, Radviliskis *[Radio Vilnius]* 44
Officials Discuss Defense, Customs Issues *[Radio Vilnius]* 44
Yedinstvo Leader Urges Death Penalty for Enemy *[Radio Vilnius]* 44
Council Reports Ter-Petrosyan's Planned Visit *[Radio Vilnius]* 45
Arms Stockpile To Be Organized in Republic *[BALTFAX]* 45
More on Stockpiling of Weapons *[Moscow Radio]* 45
Vaisvila Protests Crimes by USSR Servicemen *[BALTFAX]* 46
More on Vaisvila's Protest *[Riga Radio]* 46
Kaunas Military Tribunal Acquits Soldier *[BALTFAX]* 46
Oil, Gas Price Increases Impacts on Market *[Vilnius International]* 46

RSFSR

Yeltsin To Issue Decree on Presidential Power *[Moscow Radio]* 47
Yeltsin Issues Decree on Committee For Disabled *[Moscow International]* 47
Opposition to Signing of Union Treaty Cited 47
Deputies Urge Yeltsin Not To Sign *[INTERFAX]* 47
Democratic Russia Objects *[TASS]* 47
Silayev Interviewed on Union Treaty *[Moscow Intenational]* 47
Leningrad Leader on Gorbachev-Yeltsin Collusion *[INTERFAX]* 48
Communist Party CPSU Expulsions Criticized 48
Movement for Democratic Reforms *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 10 Aug]* 48
Democratic Party of Russian Communists *[INTERFAX]* 48
Ilin Derides Democratic Reform Movement *[PRAVDA 3 Aug]* 49
Republic Government Appointments Promulgated *[ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA 8 Aug]* 50
Bilateral Treaties To Be Signed With Republics *[Moscow Radio]* 51
Tyumen Oil Leaders, Russian Government Meet *[TASS]* 51
Ivanenko Discusses Russian KGB's Plans, Duties *[TRUD 3 Aug]* 51

WESTERN REPUBLICS

Ukraine

Fokin's 'Alarm' at Grain Sales Position Cited *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 9 Aug]* 55
Agricultural Produce Exports Banned *[Radio Rossii]* 55
Intelligentsia Urged To Support Independence *[Kiev International]* 55
Communist Party Confident of Union Treaty Signing *[INTERFAX]* 55
Hungarian Foreign Minister Ends 'Official' Visit *[Budapest MTI]* 56

Moldova

IZVESTIYA Cites Snegur Denial on Treaty Signing *[10 Aug]* 56
Republic Leaders Vow Not To Sign *[Moscow Radio]* 56
Independent Course Reaffirmed *[INTERFAX]* 56
RSFSR's Silayev Arrives To Sign Trade Agreement *[INTERFAX]* 57
Meets President Snegur *[TASS]* 57
Trade, Economic Agreement Signed *[TASS]* 57
Silayev Comments on Talks *[Moscow TV]* 58

CAUCASUS

Georgia

Slovene Independence 'Officially' Recognized *[TASS]* 59
USSR Foreign Ministry Statement *[TASS]* 59
Further Reportage on Renaming of Republic KGB *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 10 Aug]* 59
Batumi Conference Resolution on Black Sea *[SAKARTVELOS RESPUBLIKA 23 Jul]* 59
Shevardnadze Supports Efforts *[SAKARTVELOS RESPUBLIKA 25 Jul]* 60
Resolution on Solving Republic Economic Problems *[SVOBODNAYA GRUZIYA 30 Jul]* 62
Procedure for Recalling Deputies Amended *[Tbilisi Radio]* 62
Republic Supreme Soviet Adopts Privatization Law *[TASS]* 63
Resolution on Former Tskhinvali Rayon Published *[SVOBODNAYA GRUZIYA 30 Jul]* 63
Cadet Dies in Aftermath of Student Battles *[INTERFAX]* 63
Air Traffic Controllers Reject Strike Plan *[INTERFAX]* 64
More on Air Controllers' Non-Strike *[TASS]* 64

Armenia

Referendum Reportedly To Decide Republic's Future *[TASS]* 64
Committee Reports Republic's Economic Indicators *[Yerevan International]* 64
More on Republic Economic Figures *[Moscow Radio]* 65

Armenia, Lithuania Plan Cooperation Treaty *[INTERFAX]* 65
Yerevan Rayons Renamed; More Changes Planned *[Moscow Radio]* 65
Participation in Azerbaijani Elections Viewed *[Yerevan Radio]* 65
Republic Official on Fleeing Azerbaijanis *[INTERFAX]* 65
Group To Develop Republic Market Relations Plan *[Moscow Radio]* 66
Republic Artist Resigns as USSR People's Deputy *[TASS]* 66
Attacks on Villages Settled by Azerbaijanis *[Yerevan Radio]* 66
Government Reviews Quake Reconstruction Problems *[IZVESTIYA 6 Aug]* 66
Thermal Power Station Resumes Partial Operations *[ARMENPRES]* 67
Gabrielyants Comments on Armenia's Oil Reserves *[Moscow Radio]* 67
Report on Los Angeles-Yerevan Air Route Opening *[INTERFAX]* 67

Azerbaijan

Mutalibov's Meeting With Iranian Envoy Reported *[Baku Radio]* 67
Mutalibov Invited To Visit Iran *[INTERFAX]* 67
Social Democratic Leader Under Investigation *[Baku Radio]* 67
Prosecutor's Office Indicts Spokesman *[INTERFAX]* 67
More on Case Against Social Democrat *[TASS]* 68
Further on Investigation of Stepanakert Slaying *[BALTFAX]* 68
'Political' Motive Suspected in Killing *[Moscow TV]* 68
Last Azeri Group 'Driven Out' of Armenian Town *[Baku Radio]* 68
Enlarged Council of Ministers Meeting Reported *[Baku Radio]* 68
Further on Explosions at Ammunition Depot *[Moscow Radio]* 69
Nagorno-Karabakh Passport Verification Renewed *[INTERFAX]* 69
Geological Committee for Republic Established *[Baku Radio]* 69
Train Derails in Republic, Spills Fuel Oil *[Moscow Radio]* 69

CENTRAL ASIA

Central Asian Presidents To Meet 14 Aug *[INTERFAX]* 70

Kazakhstan

Republic KGB Chairman Interviewed, Denies Rumors
[KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA 13 Jul] 70
Republic Unemployment Expected To Double Soon *[Moscow TV]* 71

Kyrgyzstan

Party Activity in Republic's MVD Banned *[Bishkek Radio]* 71
Enterprises Placed Under Local Jurisdiction *[Moscow Radio]* 72

Tajikistan

Tajikistan, Turkmenistan Sign Treaty 12 Aug *[TASS]* 72
Makhkamov, Niyazov Comment *[Moscow Radio]* 72
'Resistance' to Republic Leasing Law Reported *[Moscow Radio]* 72

Turkmenistan

Supreme Soviet's Union Treaty Approval Detailed *[Ashkhabad Radio]* 73
More on Approval of Union Treaty *[Moscow TV]* 73

Uzbekistan

Birlik Denounces 'Provocation, Forgery' Attempts *[INTERFAX]* 73
Parliamentarian Decries Journalist's 'Persecution' *[INTERFAX]* 74
Republic Aide Cited on Spring Call-Up Statistics *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 8 Aug]* 74
Shifting Public Sentiments in Karakalpakstan Eyed *[PRAVDA 8 Aug]* 74

Officials, Media Discuss START Treaty Issues

Dzasokhov Voices Optimism

LD1008195991 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 1900 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] The chairman of the Soviet parliamentary Committee on International Affairs, Aleksandr Dzasokhov, is confident that the START treaty Presidents Gorbachev and Bush signed in Moscow on 31 July will be ratified. Speaking in a Saturday TV broadcast, Aleksandr Dzasokhov said, that the treaty stood low chances of being ratified easily, let alone by a unanimous vote. He felt serious steps must be taken to ensure the ratification. He saw one of the national priorities in working out a well coordinated strategy for converting defense plants to civilian production. He stressed now that the START treaty had been signed, it would be inadmissible to procrastinate with the conversion. He put forward the idea of the immediate creation of permanent bilateral and possibly multilateral structures to promote new arms reductions.

Yazov Describes Implications

PM1208202291 Moscow RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA in Russian 13 Aug 91 p 3

[Report from the "At First Hand!" column "specially for RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA" on interview with Dmitriy Yazov, USSR Defense Minister and Marshal of the Soviet Union, by IAN parliamentary observer Vl. Ostrovskiy; place and date not given: "USSR-United States: A Fighting Draw?"]

[Text] "Half a loaf is better than no loaf at all," Dmitriy Yazov, USSR Defense Minister and Marshal of the Soviet Union, said regarding the signing of the Soviet-American START Treaty in a RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA interview.

Yazov noted: "If anyone speaks of the inadequacy of the strategic arms reduction being undertaken by the two powers, those people, or that media, should be reminded of this proverb." The marshal said: "It took the USSR and the United States almost 10 years to arrive at this treaty, and it was by no means a simple dialogue. As all the data on the nuclear systems subject to reduction in accordance with this document are now known, it only remains for me to comment on certain aspects of the agreement reached."

"I would like to draw your attention to the level of nuclear armaments of the two sides that signed this treaty. If you take as your starting point the indicators of this level in June 1979, when the Soviet Union and the United States signed the SALT II Treaty, which was subsequently not ratified by the U.S. Congress, it is apparent that, throughout these years, both parties basically adhered to the levels set at that time for strategic offensive arms. This fact is highly indicative that the leaders of the two powers recognize the special responsibility that rests with them as the possessors of the world's mightiest nuclear arsenals. Judge for yourselves: Whereas at that time the United States had 2,283 delivery vehicles and we had 2,504, today they have 2,246 delivery vehicles, and we have 2,500.

"Of course, over the past decade weapons have been modernized, guidance systems have improved, accuracy of delivery to the target has increased, the nuclear warhead has been miniaturized, the missiles' range has increased. The negotiators took these processes into account, however, and all the parameters for the upcoming reduction in strategic offensive arms are very clearly designated in the present treaty. Neither side can exceed the levels set by this agreement. We know from the experience of the last 10 years that both we and our American partners will observe the accords reached.

"The United States is destroying 300 fewer delivery vehicles than we are, but it will eliminate 200 heavy bombers, which we are not doing. You will agree that one of these planes costs more than a missile. In my view, this is an example of reasonable compromise. The United States met us halfway on another issue when it agreed to destroy 100 more of its weapons [boyezaryady] than we are destroying.

"It is currently being said quite widely that this treaty is supposedly disadvantageous to the Soviet Union. They are even trying to convince people who are not very sophisticated about military matters that it weakens us more than the Americans. I must say quite clearly that these conjectures are designed for gullible people and are directed, with no good intention, at the upcoming ratification of this document in our parliament. The main indicators concerning the arms that will be reduced and the levels of these reductions are widely known. An unbiased observer will come to the conclusion that as a result of the treaty's implementation, neither side will find itself in a detrimental position and no one's security will suffer. What is very important is that the deterrence factor is not disrupted, which means that the stability of the strategic situation is preserved. Decreasing the levels of nuclear equipment at the disposal of states like ours increases the reliability of their security. It is high time everyone understood this axiom.

"As for the talk of a reduction in the Soviet Union's military potential, it would be senseless to deny this. Honesty is the best policy. Our level of armament has been lowered by the elimination of intermediate- and short-range missiles, completed this spring; as well as the unilateral reduction in our troop strength by half a million servicemen. We are following our defensive doctrine in these processes and do not intend to do so to the detriment of our security."

Answering a question on how much the START Treaty will cost the Soviet people, the defense minister pointed out that the disarmament process in general costs a considerable amount. "As for the cost of the measures

eliminating some of our strategic offensive arms stipulated in the agreement signed in Moscow, according to preliminary rough estimates they could cost us over 2 billion rubles. Of course, that is a considerable sum, but we must bear in mind that the destruction (or salvage) of strategic offensive arms, especially nuclear charges, the reactors of missile submarines, and missile fuel, demands constant and considerable expenditure. This problem faces not only our country, but any nuclear power, so it could be considered an international problem.

"Which is more costly: destroying or maintaining these nuclear arms? It would be wrong to phrase the question like that, because a the matter involves not only economic factors, but also includes strategic and political factors—and these are not only national but are international in nature. After all, the processes you mentioned touch on the problem of the strategic situation's stability. According to our estimates, the cost of eliminating some of our strategic offensive arms ultimately will be economically beneficial. In any case, we would have had to tackle the problem of salvaging the obsolete components of strategic offensive arms. As far as the START Treaty is concerned, it is clear from the text that we are not completely disarming ourselves, but are reducing the most dangerous nuclear weapon systems based on parity with the United States. Consequently, we are retaining sufficient forces and resources for our Armed Forces to be able to fulfill their duty to the fatherland and to their people.

"Incidentally, even apart from this treaty, the United States is reducing its level of armaments," the marshal observed. "In Moscow President George Bush assured the Soviet side that the reduction of over 100 U.S. military bases on the European continent is already being implemented. Britain is reducing its ground forces by 40,000 men; the FRG is reducing the strength of the Bundeswehr to three corps instead of the former four. I cannot say that in the course of the talks we are the only party losing something or yielding ground.

"There is also another problem that causes me considerable concern: The shortfall in men enlisted for compulsory service in the course of the annual draft of young men of the appropriate age into the Army. We are receiving virtually no recruits from six of the Union republics. As a result, we are significantly under strength in the military units, which of course weakens our Army.

"As for the withdrawal of our troops from Eastern Europe, their redeployment is taking place according to the concept of defense sufficiency. I hope that the majority of people now understand that we have no plans that in any way threaten our neighbors or our partners in the Paris Charter for a New Europe. The main thing that everyone must realize today is that disarmament is an irreversible process, and no other way to strengthen universal security exists."

Writer on U.S. ABM Plans

LD1208180891 Moscow TASS in English 1320 GMT 12 Aug 91

[By TASS military writer Vladimir Chernyshev]

[Text] Moscow August 12 TASS—The U.S. Senate chose a strange way to celebrate the signing of a historic treaty with the Soviet Union to reduce strategic offensive weapons, when it voted—merely several days later—to deploy an anti-ballistic missile (ABM) system, the NEW YORK TIMES reported.

Strange is just the word. Isn't it strange indeed that with the START Treaty finally signed to bolster strategic stability and markedly lessen the risk of outbreak of nuclear war, American law-makers give their approval to the deployment of an ABM system even before 1996 and recommend the administration to enter into talks with the USSR to review the ABM Treaty?

Some people in the United States justify such actions by arguing that the system's deployment will not run counter to the ABM Treaty. The deployment of a system consisting of 100 interceptor missiles will not violate the Treaty indeed. It is also true that the Soviet Union already has such a system in place around Moscow.

The kernel of the matter, however, lies somewhere else. The proposal discussed in the Senate provides for deploying seven to ten more such systems on U.S. territory, which will be a direct breach of the ABM Treaty. In addition, the latter does not allow the deployment of pick-ups and an ABM battle management system in space.

U.S. National Security Adviser Brent Scowcroft told a briefing on July 29 that the Soviet Union was expected to react in a more positive way to plans to emplace an ABM system to guard against accidental launches and cope with the problem of missile proliferation to other countries than to President Ronald Reagan's 1983 "strategic defence initiative" [SDI] announcement.

According to Scowcroft, Soviet apprehensions about the SDI are not so strong as far as precautions against accidental missile launches are concerned. But such claims have no realistic grounds.

The Soviet Union continues to believe that any deployment of a large-scale ABM system destabilises the strategic situation. If Washington follows the policy reflected in the Senate decision, this may eventually destroy everything that was agreed upon in the START Treaty With so much difficulty.

A revision of the ABM Treaty or the U.S. walkout of it may leave the USSR without a stimulus to scale down strategic weapons. The further nuclear arms reduction process may be in jeopardy.

The Senate-charted course has a more sensible and cheaper alternative, namely to observe the ABM Treaty,

which is an important element of the existing fiber of arms control, and keep enhancing it, as well as to continue to steadily axe U.S. and Soviet nuclear arsenals and strengthen the nuclear non-proliferation regime. Greater strategic stability can be achieved only along these lines.

It remains to regret that the START Treaty has not resolved one fundamental problem, failing to properly reflect the relationship between strategic offensive and defensive arms. The Soviet Union agreed to sign the treaty without U.S. guarantees of continued compliance with the ABM Treaty, which is a cornerstone of strategic stability.

The Senate decision makes it appropriate to ask if it does not fortify the positions of START critics in the Soviet Union and will not tell on the treaty's ratification.

Security Benefit Questioned

PM1208172591 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 10 Aug 91 First Edition p 5

[A. Silantyev article from the "Viewpoint" column: "Security or the Logic of Coordination?"]

[Text] One of the latest foreign policy ideas that Academician G. Arbatov is steadfastly defending at various levels is reducing military experts' role in arms reduction talks as much as possible.

Of course, that is if you decipher the idea from what has been said. In words and on paper everything seems to be on the level. We must give the supreme leaders more opportunities to hold talks—why should they delve into technical details? They need only make the major political decisions, and then it is up to the experts to knock into shape what the high parties have agreed upon.

Literally on the eve of Bush's visit to the USSR, Academician G. Arbatov got on his soap box once again and wrote: "We need a new model for arms reduction talks, and now is the time to begin elaborating it.... In particular, we need to give more real power to the political leadership and less to technical experts and the negotiating bureaucracy. We must also ensure that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has a leading role in the elaboration of negotiating positions in interdepartmental groups." (IZVESTIYA 26 July 1991)

To put it mildly, this depends on the people's lack of intelligence. There was a time in history, admittedly, when, during a private discussion in Reykjavik, President Ronald Reagan, who did not have a clear picture of the details, almost "handed over" half of the U.S. offensive weapons, but even before he returned to Washington, his NATO allies explained to him what was what. U.S. diplomacy did not let any other problems occur, and for a long time the favorite expression of then U.S. Secretary of State G. Shultz was: "The problem lies in the details."

Now too experts have rejected top leaders' statements, evidently to G. Arbatov's great dissatisfaction. The Strategic Offensive Arms Treaty [START] envisages the reduction of USSR and United States nuclear arsenals by 30 percent overall. But after all, at one time the presidents of the two countries made a solemn promise was made to achieve a 50 percent reduction. Our side made that proposal, and G. Arbatov probably took an active part in advancing it.

Be that as it may, the START Treaty has been concluded. Until it is ratified, however, it remains a simple declaration. Both the United States and ourselves must ratify the START treaty in the U.S. Congress and the USSR Supreme Soviet respectively.

What can we say about the new treaty? Undoubtedly it is a big step forward on the path to reducing the nuclear threat, and in that sense it should be unconditionally supported. At the same time, the impression that the treaty is not to our benefit is not going away.

For instance, the overall quantity of weapons was established at 6,000 units, but in fact the counting system under the treaty enables the United States to have approximately 8,800 units and the USSR to have even less—7,000. Furthermore, both Britain and France's nuclear forces are not covered by the treaty at all, and these are clearly not aimed at the Western hemisphere.

We are reducing our most powerful weapons—our heavy intercontinental ballistic missiles—by 50 percent, and we are giving up the manufacture of new types of these missiles in the future, whereas the Americans are not halving any of their offensive forces.

The United States seems to be reducing a significant quantity of its heavy bombers, and it is allowing us to have a greater number of these aircraft, but in fact it is removing this old hardware from its arsenal and proposing that we add it to ours.

On the other hand, the Americans have agreed to the modernization of our heavy missiles and the deployment of land-based mobile missiles, and they have started reducing their sea- and air-launched cruise missiles. Concessions have also been reached on many other questions where the American side had taken a tough stand.

In a word, the several hundred pages of the START treaty provide a great deal of material for all kinds of interpretations—even more so because a number of its articles are of an ambiguous nature.

As far as the purely military aspects of the treaty are concerned, it seems that we must trust the experts. They assess these issues quite well, but the USSR Supreme Soviet, as the supreme legislative organ, must be the one to adopt the political decision.

It is curious that President Bush is so optimistic regarding the treaty's fate in the U.S. Congress. He believes that, if it is ratified, the treaty will virtually "sail

through the Senate." Such statements would undoubtedly not be made if the treaty did not suit the United States.

Essentially, the START treaty is the latest arms reduction agreement that the Americans have managed to "squeeze" out of the Soviet side. No new treaties of this type are envisaged in the foreseeable future. Now that it has taken definite steps toward reducing tension, Moscow cannot continue with disarmament on a broad scale. There was the Treaty on the Elimination of Intermediate- and Short-Range Missiles which was received with enthusiasm in the United States. The Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe was concluded. Even Senator J. Helms, who is categorically opposed to any arms control, supports its ratification.

The START Treaty is not quite as advantageous to the United States as the two previous ones were, but, according to American calculations, it still promises them more benefits than losses. Even these relatively modest achievements were jeopardized, however, and the unstable situation in the Soviet Union forced the U.S. Administration to quicken its efforts. The United States had to consolidate the positions it had won in the face of the unpredictable development of events in our country. After all, if the center disappears or is weakened too much and the republics move into the forefront, then there will be no one to hold talks with.

That is probably why, before the meeting with the seven Western developed countries that was so important to Moscow, President Bush sent a letter containing a request to exert pressure on our "bureaucrats" who were apparently torpedoing the START treaty. Reading between the lines, you had to bear in mind the 7+1 meeting in London, and also the unclear prospects of Soviet-American economic collaboration in the event that the date of the summit in Moscow, long overdue as it was, would be deferred again.

Following the final phase of talks in Washington, General M. Moiseyev, chief of the USSR Armed Forces General Staff, gave a very high assessment of the professional skill and, very importantly, the civic stance of A.A. Bessmertnykh, minister of foreign affairs, who led our delegation. The treaty as a whole was quite well balanced, according to Defense Minister D. Yazov.

But here is a question: Do we need this treaty now? Evidently the Americans do. From the viewpoint of humanitarian values, new political thinking, and the associated liberation of mankind from nuclear disaster, the treaty is clearly a positive development. But is it from the viewpoint of our national interests?

Is now the right moment to actually reduce weapons, as opposed to just restricting them, that is, not manufacturing new ones? Should we spend money now on eliminating missiles which would scarcely be launched anyway? After all, this is a question of millions of rubles. Would it not be better to put this money to some other use?

The people's deputies should concentrate on this issue. If they decide that putting the treaty into force today is a priority for the Soviet electorate, then they can recall that American politicians make very active use of the practice of coordinating treaties with the solution of specific political problems.

This particularly concerns granting us the possibility of conducting normal trade with the United States. First of all, we curbed Jewish emigration (and then started to permit anyone to leave who wanted to, so the Americans immediately introduced quotas). Then we had a bad record on respecting human rights—even though, for example, things seem to be no better in China, but it still has most-favored-nation status in its trade with the United States. After that, we behaved badly in Central America (not Panama, naturally). Then we adopted the wrong attitude toward the Baltic Republics. At the last summit meeting, the subject of the "northern territories" and Japan arose completely unexpectedly.

So we will never turn over a new leaf, regardless of any treaties and declarations of partnership and collaboration.

The granting of most-favored-nation status in trade is by no means everything we need. The promises of the seven in London contain almost no specifics, and at the moment we cannot feel any real support from the West for our reforms. We need:

1. Guarantees of large long-term credits on favorable terms for the urgent purchase of goods abroad and the development of vital promising sectors of our economy.

2. The removal of all restrictions on American exports to the USSR, particularly of modern technology—though not necessarily of a military nature, which the Americans are so afraid of.

3. Technical assistance in reequipping the communication infrastructure, especially telephone lines. The market will not work without reliable telephones, particularly as this now involves not just telephones but also faxes, computers, and, in the near future, televisions.

4. Recognition that the countries of Eastern Europe, with the exception of the former GDR, are a sphere of the Soviet Union's vital interests. These countries will go their own way, and no one intends to hinder them, but both the United States and its allies should make clear statements that the NATO's zone influence will not be extended.

5. An end to assistance to Afghan armed groupings. Afghanistan still remains an open wound, largely due to Western financial aid.

The list of things we need could be continued, but that is not the main issue. The main issue is that the Americans should move on from sweet-sounding declarations—for which we have had a weakness since the times of "stagnation"—to real, concrete actions. Moscow has

almost finished traveling to the half way point, and it is time to travel together. It is up to the American side to meet us.

In 1988, the "old" USSR Supreme Soviet put on a show when ratifying the Treaty on Intermediate- and Short-Range Missiles. Television cameras were set up, Soviet journalists were summoned, and foreign correspondents were brought in. Behind the scenes, the people responsible for foreign policy were asking the deputies, who had no understanding of these problems, to ask "pointed" questions. In general, they themselves both formulated these questions and then answered them. The treaty was successfully ratified just before President Ronald Reagan's visit to the USSR. Then there was just glasnost—not freedom of speech—and everyone observed the rules of the game.

Today, times are different. By no means does every draft law get through on its first reading. The discussion of the START treaty in the USSR Supreme Soviet will show what interests each of the people's representatives are defending—Soviet (that is, state-national), American, human, or their own personal interests.

Commentary Views U.S. Arms Supply Abroad

LD1308045491 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 1810 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Sergey Kashkin commentary]

[Text] The United States has become the world's biggest arms merchant, as it more than doubled the shipments of weapons to developing countries last year. Now the view of our analyst, Sergey Koshkin:

What transpired from a report released in Washington is hardly sensational. However, the reasons for such a growth have certainly stirred much interest. Experts from the U.S. Congress blame this above all on the recent Gulf War, which they allege demonstrated the high quality of U.S. weaponry and enticed buyers. Also mentioned as a reason is the reduction of the U.S. military budget with the result that arms manufacturers have had to turn to markets abroad.

Whether these reasons are true is hard to say, but one thing is clear—that the United States has become the major supplier of arms to developing countries for the first time since 1983. The Third World shares nearly 45 percent in the U.S. overall volume of arms commerce. What should certainly be accepted is the conclusion made in the report that this growth coincided with statements by administration officials that it is necessary to reduce and even discontinue arms supplies to the Third World, above all to the Middle East.

When the five permanent UN Security Council members discussed the problem of arms trade in Paris last month, they focused on the Middle East. This country feels it is essential to balance the reduction of all weapons, above all missiles. The United States urged arms exporters for collective self restraint, reserving for them a possibility to exercise the legitimate right of each state to self-defense. France favored the application of new rules for such trade to all regions without exception. Britain holds a more cautious stand, and China put forward a plan to limit all weapons in all countries.

Although the opinions of the five countries vary, they all share the same view: That arms trade needs to be internationally controlled. Regrettably, a verification mechanism will hardly be devised in the foreseeable future. So far, profit motivation has often prevailed over political reason in the field, which seems to be borne by the U.S. leadership, comments Sergey Koshkin.

Foreign Ministry on Turkish-Iraqi Developments

OW1308051391 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1520 GMT 12 Aug 91

[From the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Soviet Foreign Ministry continues to follow the development of events in the Turkish-Iraqi border region. In the Department of Middle East Countries in the Soviet Foreign Ministry, the "DP" [Diplomatic Panorama] correspondent reports that they refrained from making any new comments on Turkish military operations against the armed formations of Kurdish separatists in northern Iraq. They referred to the statement made last Friday on this topic by a representative of the Soviet Foreign Ministry. In the statement it was pointed out that the present activities in the region, where recently such dramatic events occurred, and in which many members of an international military force were involved, conflict with the establishment of norms for deciding the current problems.

The Soviet Foreign Ministry let it be known that in relation to this situation the USSR may take diplomatic steps so as to prevent further development of conflict in the region which directly borders the Soviet Union.

Official Sees 'Encouraging Signs' in Yugoslavia

LD1208200391 Moscow Central Television Vostok Program and Orbita Networks in Russian 1530 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Studio interview with Yuriy Stepanovich Deryabin, head of a Soviet delegation to a CSCE committee, by Vremya announcer Aleksandr Serikov in Moscow; from the "Vremya" newscast—live]

[Text] [Serikov] With us in the studio is Yuriy Stepanovich Deryabin, head of the Soviet delegation to one of the committees of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. This committee is examining the complex situations taking shape in Europe. At the end of last week, in Prague, this committee held a conference devoted to the situation in Yugoslavia. Yuriy Stepanovich: What was the position of the Soviet delegation and what was successfully achieved?

[Deryabin] I will start by saying that the situation in Yugoslavia remains difficult, but there are encouraging signs, primarily the Yugoslav Presidium's decision for a complete cease-fire in Croatia. A policy has now been adopted on resolving the problems—this is important—with one's own forces. Yugoslavia opposes further internationalization of the crisis which could cross the line to become interference in its internal affairs. We fully support this position. I remind you that this was the essence of the Soviet Government's 6 August statement. At that forum, a committee of senior officials met in Prague and adopted several decisions. The Presidium of Yugoslavia's decision on the cease-fire was supported, and it was decided to expand the observers' mission sent to Yugoslavia via the CSCE by bringing in a number of countries and broadening its activities in Croatia. The committee fully welcomed the Yugoslav Presidium's decision to begin talks on the country's future as soon as possible, perhaps no later than 15 August, and offered its good services to send a CSCE goodwill mission to Yugoslavia if Yugoslavia so desires.

[Serikov] The main question which I think will be of concern to many of our viewers: What do you think,—will it prove possible to achieve peace in Yugoslavia, and if it does prove possible, then as a result of what?

[Deryabin] I would say the main hopes of course lie with the Yugoslavs, with their ability to stop the fighting, to sit down to talks,—this is an appeal to all sides participating in the conflict to start a dialogue among one another. Regarding outside factors, the thing is not to undertake anything that might hinder the start of this dialogue, but, on the contrary, to do everything to help it to the extent the Yugoslavs themselves are interested. One can find a hope for success in a combination of these factors.

[Serikov] Thank you for taking part in our program.

Ministry Spokesman Discusses 'University Forum'

LD1208213791 Moscow TASS in English 1648 GMT 12 Aug 91

[By TASS correspondent Igor Peskov]

[Text] Moscow August 12 TASS—The Soviet Government attaches much importance to the preparations for the meeting of the conference on the human dimension of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe this September in Moscow, Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Aleksandr Rozanov told Soviet and Spanish correspondents today.

The government is doing everything possible to make the meeting a success, he said.

In this connection, the Soviet Union paid attention to a report of the Spanish EFE news agency, which said, referring to "sources" at the Madrid Complutense University rectorate, about the decision of the Spanish division of the Helsinki human rights committee to refuse from holding the "university forum" in Moscow.

The cancellation of the forum, a public arrangement organised simultaneously with the conference on the human dimension, was explained, according to the "sources", by an alleged Soviet violation of preliminary agreements on its organisation.

The spokesman said that "there has not been" an official statement of the "university forum" organisers on this matter. The Soviet side has shown the maximum attention to the organisers of this arrangement, and the question of its theme and composition was left to their discretion.

Attempts to connect the cancellation of the forum with the name of Soviet Vice President Gennadiy Yanayev provoke special astonishment, Rozanov stressed.

"There has not been any meeting between the forum organisers and the Soviet vice president, and allegations about his adjustment of the theme of the forum is an ill-intentioned invention", he said.

In conclusion Rozanov noted that "there is not any obstacles on the way of holding the 'university forum' in Moscow" and expressed his regret over the fact that this useful and necessary undertaking of the Spanish public became the object of "unworthy insinuations".

IMF Envoys Depart; Foreign Ministry Comments

OW1008012491 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1430 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] A delegation from the International Monetary Fund [IMF] has concluded a visit to the USSR. At the Department of International Economic Relations at the Foreign Ministry, the IMF examined its first two-way contact in the new situation which arose as a result of granting the Soviet Union status as an associate member of the IMF. The topic of the discussions held in Moscow was the official request made by the Soviet Union to receive full status in this international financial organization.

The sides, as reported by the Foreign Ministry, discussed the possible new steps in this direction, and the questions of rendering the Soviet Union technical assistance. In conjunction with the World Bank, whose delegation was in Moscow last week, the IMF is able to help realize Soviet economic reforms through providing expertise in economic projects, training personnel, conducting seminars, and attracting qualified consultants.

As with the World Bank, the Soviets signed no documents with the IMF. The sides did exchange deias, however, on the possibility of reaching an agreement about technical help for the USSR. At the Foreign Ministry it is assumed that in one month experts will be able to prepare the corresponding text, after which discussions on this question can begin.

EBRD Delegation Concludes Visit 9 Aug

OW1008044891 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1430 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] A visit to Kiev today, August 9th, concluded a trip to the Soviet Union by a group of directors from the advisory board of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development [EBRD]. The delegation held conferences on the condition of the Soviet economy and on the beginning of the bank's activities in the USSR. These conferences were held int he capital of the Ukraine and in Moscow, as reported by "DP" [Diplomatic Panorama] in the department of International Economic Relations in the Foreign Ministry of the USSR.

More concretely, discussions were about the technical help, in the frame of a credit limit for the Soviet Union, which the bank prescribed. The USSR, whose quota at the Bank amounts to 6 percent, can expect to receive a sum of about 30 million dollars.

As the representatives of the bank explained at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the USSR, the purpose of their trip to the Soviet Union was to find first hand information about Soviet economic reform, so that the advisory board of directors could subsequently ratify the document which decides on the bank's strategy with regard to the Soviet Union. The guests had meetings with the First Deputy Prime Minister of the USSR, V. Shcherbakov, and also with experts from then economics departments of the Soviet Union, Russia, and the Ukraine.

IZVESTIYA Correction to KAL-007 Location

CM1308115991 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Aug 91 Union Edition p 6

[Unattributed "Correction"]

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian on 8 August in its Union Edition on page 6 provides the following correction to the item headlined "Gorbachev's Letter to KAL-007 Victims' Families," published in the 7 August Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page 2. IZVESTIYA explains: "Unfortunately, a technical error crept in while the item was being prepared for the press. The Defense Ministry has informed us that the following coordinates were officially conveyed to the USSR Foreign Ministry."

Page 3, column one, paragraph four, sentence two make read ...whose coordinates are 46 degrees 35 minutes latitude north and 141 degrees... (correcting coordinates)

United States & Canada

Deputy Foreign Minister, U.S. Diplomat Meet

LD1208222291 Moscow TASS in English 1810 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Moscow August 12 TASS—Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Aleksey Obukhov received today U.S. acting Charge d'Affaires in the USSR James Collins at the latter's request.

The sides discussed the practical implementation of some agreements reached during the recent Soviet-U.S. summit in Moscow.

U.S. Refusal To Lift Cocom Restrictions Viewed

LD1008135191 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 0300 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Vladislav Kozyakov commentary]

[Text] The White House press secretary said at a briefing that the United States cannot lift the Cocom [Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls] restrictions on high technology exports to the Soviet Union. This statement cannot but raise some questions, because it concerns a very important aspect of Soviet-U.S. economic ties (?there) today and tomorrow. Let me remind you that after the conclusion of the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty in Moscow and the establishment of relations of partnership, the normalization of trade between the Soviet Union and the United States has acquired a key importance. A great deal has already been done along these lines—for instance the decision (?to suggest) to the U.S. Congress for the ratification of a trade agreement providing for the most favored nation status for the Soviet Union, and other steps.

However, at the recent Moscow summit, the importance was emphasized for lifting the Cocom restrictions on exports imposed by the Soviet Union and other Western countries. [sentence as heard] Those restrictions, dating back to the era of the Cold War, run counter to the new situation in the world. At first it seemed that this position taken by the Soviet Union met with understanding at the Moscow summit. The American side promised to consider relaxing Western controls on high technology exports. However, several days after the U.S. President's visit to Moscow there arrived a report that Washington has no intention to make any changes to the current practice.

The White House press secretary said that the United States had already agreed to lifting quite a few Cocom restrictions and for the time being was unable to do more. Apparently that was a reference to the decisions Cocom made last May to cut the list of goods banned from export by half. However, even when that decision comes into effect the Cocom list will still contain thousands of articles which no firm in the United States or other Western countries will be able to sell to the Soviet Union.

The Cocom list still includes the newest electronic products, new materials, precision metal-working machine tools, telecommunications, big computers, and various engines. In the current situation, the already developed and even signed contracts for the modernization of various Soviet industries, to which American companies are signatories, cannot be carried out because of the Cocom ban.

The pronounced intention to support the Soviet Union's transition to a market economy is not backed up by action. What's more, this is exactly the way in which a spokesman for American Telephone and Telegraph has described the ban on sales of the advanced telecommunication equipment to the Soviet Union: He said that barring the Soviet Union from modern communication systems may frustrate its economic reform.

Many in America these days have been saying quite correctly that the Soviet Union must do a great deal to develop large-scale and mutually beneficial trade with the United States. But the other side must walk its part of the way too, and join efforts to create partnership from politics to economy.

China

Visiting Chief of Staff Meets Yazov, Moiseyev

LD1308090191 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1916 GMT 12 Aug 91

["Concluding Day of Visit by CGS of Chinese Army"—TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 12 Aug (TASS)—Chi Haotian, chief of General Staff [CGS] of the Chinese People's Liberation Army, who is in the Soviet Union on an official visit, arrived in Moscow from Leningrad today.

The Chinese military leader was received by the USSR Defense Minister Dmitriy Yazov, marshal of the Soviet Union. During the meeting mutual confidence was expressed that ties between the peoples and Armies of the PRC and the USSR would continue to strengthen and develop.

A concluding conversation was also held between People's Liberation Army CGS Chi Haotian and CGS of the USSR Armed Forces General Mikhail Moiseyev.

The same day the guest visited the Kantemir Guards tank division named after Yuriy Andropov, where he learned about the organization of training and the living conditions of the guardsmen.

In the evening, Col Gen Chi Haotian left for home. At the airport he was seen off by Army General Mikhail

Moiseyev and other officials. Among those seeing him off was Yu Hongliang, PRC ambassador to the USSR.

Northeast Asia

Moscow Welcomes UN Decision on Korean States

LD1208164991 Moscow TASS in English 1806 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Moscow August 12 TASS—The Soviet Union welcomes the U.N. Security Council's recent decision to approve Resolution No. 702, recommending the General Assembly to admit North Korea and South Korea to the United Nations as full-fledged members, a Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman said. The council took the decision without either a discussion or a vote.

"Asked to comment on it, the spokesman told TASS: "The Soviet Union supports this decision and expresses hope that the full-fledged membership of the two Korean states in the United Nations will help lower tension and enhance security on the Korean Peninsula, foster an atmosphere of trust and mutual understanding between the North and South of Korea, develop inter-Korean dialogue and, ultimately, reunite the country.

"It is our conviction that the simultaneous entry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Korea in the United Nations will raise the international prestige of both Korean states and activate the quest for ways towards Korea's reunification."

Radio Supports DPRK Denuclearization Proposal

SK1008094591 Moscow Radio Moscow in Korean 0900 GMT 3 Aug 91

[By commentator Nikolayev]

[Text] The proposal for the creation of a nuclear-free zone on the Korean peninsula and other areas in Asia is in full accord with the basic goal of Soviet Foreign policy [words indistinct]. The USSR has signed a protocol with [word indistinct] on a nuclear-free zone in the South Pacific and has positively supported the Indonesian proposal for the creation of the zone in Southeast Asia. These proposals would be helpful in consolidating the overall stability of regions, expanding detente, reducing (?nuclear weapons) and armaments, and creating an atmosphere for building confidence and cooperation.

Of course, abolishing all nuclear weapons from the areas cannot be regarded as an ideal method for easing tension. The Soviet Union and the United States have agreed to abolish medium-range nuclear missiles and long-range missiles. In addition, they signed the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty some time ago. These are the first steps in easing tension in the areas. The creation of a nuclear-free zone will surely help reduce nuclear weapons, but this will not be easy.

For example, it is impossible to build a nuclear-free zone on the Korean peninsula as long as the U.S. nuclear weapons are on the southern half of the peninsula.

For some time Pyongyang has called on the United States to remove its nuclear weapons from the area, and the USSR and the PRC support this just demand. At the same time, linking the fulfillment of an international agreement to the stationing of foreign troops in the southern half of the Korean peninsula, as Pyongyang has done, cannot be considered proper.

This points to the DPRK's statement that it would sign an agreement with the International Atomic Energy Agency after the signing of the nonproliferation agreement on nuclear weapons, and that it would accept international inspection of its nuclear facilities.

In connection with this, the ROK's [word indistinct] has basically caused Seoul's refusal to accept Pyongyang's proposal for denuclearization.

As long as there are nuclear weapons in the neighboring countries surrounding the Korean peninsula, the ROK declares that it would be reckless to create a nuclear-free zone on the Korean peninsula. This is unreasonable, however, because there is (?a difference between a guarantee on denuclearization and a guarantee on cooperation) and [word indistinct]. The USSR reaffirms its willingness to guarantee a nuclear-free zone on the Korean peninsula.

Near East & South Asia

PRAVDA Views Moves for Mideast Peace Talks

PM1208124991 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Aug 91 Second Edition p 4

[Correspondent An. Stepanov report: "First Step Taken. En Route to a Near East Settlement"]

[Text] Beirut, Aug [incomplete dateline as published]—The Soviet-U.S. statement proposing a Near East peace conference in October and Secretary of State Baker's latest visit to the region to win the conflicting parties' agreement to participate in the peace process are arousing quite a bit of interest in the Arab mass media.

As is well known, such Arab countries as Egypt, Syria, Jordan, and Lebanon, which are directly involved in the Near East conflict, have expressed their willingness to join Israel at the negotiating table within the framework of a regional peace conference. The Israeli Cabinet has approved Prime Minister Shamir's decision to participate in this conference by 16 votes to three. The PLO has also advocated convening a peace conference and has supported the Soviet-U.S. proposal. Local observers, however, point to the differing conditions for participation in the conference being advanced by Israel and the PLO.

Shamir's government is categorically opposed to the PLO's involvement in talks, and also utterly rules out the presence of representatives of East Jerusalem, annexed by Israel in 1980, and of that part of the Palestinian people who were expelled from their homeland and forced to live outside its borders. What is more, high-ranking Israelis are saying that the principle of "land for peace" contained in the well-known Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 does not suit Israel, which is only willing to hold talks on the "peace for peace" principle. In practice that means keeping a considerable proportion of the occupied territories under Israeli control, primarily East Jerusalem and the Syrian Golan Heights, annexed in 1981.

As for Palestinian representation at the conference, people in Israel insist that it should be within the framework of a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation and that Israel will still have the right to reject any candidacy. It is hard to call this a constructive stand, but evidently Israel is finding it extremely difficult to part with the stereotypes of the trench mentality.

The Arab countries' unified stance on Palestinian representation, which by no means came easy to them, is based on the fact that the Palestinians themselves should decide the members of their delegation. According to 'Arafat adviser Abu-Sharif, the PLO, demonstrating flexibility and a constructive approach, intends to appoint delegation members that are acceptable to everyone. Nevertheless, the Palestinians firmly uphold the fundamental viewpoint that the only real basis for a just settlement is the "land for peace" principle, along with guarantees of the Palestinian people's legitimate national rights, the inadmissibility of the annexation of East Jerusalem and the need for its Palestinian population to be represented, and an end to Israeli colonization of the occupied territories.

During an interview with THE WASHINGTON POST, Ilyas Frayj, mayor of Bethlehem on the West Bank of the Jordan, who is considered a likely candidate for the Palestinian delegation, described a possible compromise scenario that would make it possible to escape this deadlock. According to him, the Palestinians will certainly take part in the conference within a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation. They will hold bilateral talks with Israel on the Baker plan, which provides for the Palestinians to be given "a little more than autonomy" after a three-year transitional period. Frayj added that this plan does not please all Palestinians but will at least put an end to the occupying power and the construction of settlements.

However, even that compromise met with a sharp rebuff from right-wing forces on both sides. Israeli "hawks"—Ministers A. Sharon and Y. Ne'eman—along with R. Cheney talk of "national betrayal" and threaten Israel with all manner of calamities if it takes part in the peace conference. The Palestinian religious fundamentalist organizations "Islamic Jihad" and "Hamas" reject the peace conference as "capitulation and the renunciation of legitimate rights" and threaten with physical reprisals prominent people from the occupied territories who are close to the PLO. It was these latter who met with Secretary of State Baker and it is they who are deemed the most prestigious and likely members of a Palestinian delegation.

In September Tunis will host a sitting of the Palestine National Council—the parliament in exile—at which it is intended to finally formulate a negotiating position and ensure unity within the ranks of all detachments of the Palestinian resistance movement. Intensive contacts are continuing. Tremendous difficulties still have to be overcome and the clouds of prejudice and enmity in the way of a just settlement dispelled, but it is important that the first and, perhaps, the most difficult step has already been taken.

Pakistan Talks Lead Mujahidin To Release POW

Soviet Prisoner Handed Over

LD1208173991 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 1330 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] A Soviet delegation, led by special envoy Nikolayevich Ivanovich Kozyrev, is ending its second round of talks in Islamabad on the Afghan problem. Our correspondent Ruslan Golyulin reports from Kabul.

[Golyulin] I have just returned from the ceremony to hand over to the Soviet side the POW Qurban Ali Tashrifov, who fell into the hands of the Mujahidin in 1984 and was held all those years by Field Commander Azizumi Abdali. As a result of prolonged and persistent efforts by Soviet Embassy officials in Pakistan and Afghanistan, he was exchanged for 25 Mujahidin held prisoner by Afghan troops. One of them, incidentally, is a citizen of Saudi Arabia. This evening Qurban Ali's father, Khekmatular Tashrifov, is flying out to Pakistan from Tajikistan.

Extremely excited, given the seven years of his imprisonment, and struggling hard to find the Russian words, Qurban Ali apologized for being unable to say even two or three phrases to Moscow Radio listeners. Later, everything later. For now, just thank you for all that has been done for my release. Such were his words.

In an interview for your correspondent, Nikolay Ivanovich Kozyrev, the head of the Soviet delegation, said: All this has been very interesting and very important, and gives hopes for great changes for the better. At least one gets the feeling that about half a year ago, even absolutely nothing to do with the situation now emerging in Afghanistan, but rather with the fact that everyone is gradually realizing that this conflict should be settled by political means. The Afghans themselves must ultimately have the decisive say. This thought is confirmed not only in Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, and Iran, but also among the Mujahidin. This is not yet very clearly expressed among them and by no means everyone accepts it, but certain groupings, particular moderate

ones, are beginning to sense that there simply is no way out other than through dialogue.

To Return 13 Aug

OW1308005491 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1600 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The negotiations the Soviet Foreign Ministry's special envoy Nikolay Kozyrev has had in Islamabad ended in the release of a Soviet prisoner of war. The man, Shafirov, has been held prisoner by anti-government rebels since 1984. According to Soviet Foreign Ministry sources Kozyrev and the former Soviet prisoner of war are expected to return to Moscow at 01:50 August 13.

The Foreign Ministry said the negotiations in the Pakistani capital concerned the widest range of questions concerning a settlement in Afghanistan.

Kozyrev Concludes Visit

LD1208195891 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 1600 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] A senior Soviet envoy ended two days of talks with Pakistani authorities and Afghan guerrillas on Monday, insisting the warring parties talk to each other to end the Afghan conflict.

Soviet ambassdaor at large Nikolay Kozyrev and Pakistani officials agreed to continue talks to try to reach a consensus on a recent United Nations peace plan for Afghanistan.

Kozyrev's visit followed guarded approval from most guerrilla groups last month for the United Nations plan, which envisages a cease-fire and an interim administration leading to elections. The Soviet side stressed it was for Afghanis [as heard] to meet among themselves and decide their future. However, Pakistan told the Soviet delegation that the Mojahedin guerrillas were united in their rejection of President Najibollah's government in Kabul.

Pakistan switched the emphasis of its Afghan policy early this year from direct aid to Mojahedin groups to a search for a political solution, but any substantive progress in the peace search hinges on who should represent Kabul in any negotiations.

Further on Talks

LD1308042491 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2026 GMT 12 Aug 91

[By TASS correspondents Vladislav Legantsov and Nikolay Semenenko]

[Text] Islamabad, 12 Aug (TASS)—A delegation from the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, headed by special envoy Nikolay Kozyrev, completed two days of talks with Pakistani officials in Islamabad today. The main purpose of the talks was to seek ways of settling the protracted Afghan crisis.

Commenting on the results of the talks, both the Pakistani and Soviet sides stressed their frank and constructive nature. A distinguishing mark of the present dialogue was that none of the parties had any doubts about the need for a peaceful political solution to the Afghan problem. Working meetings took place at the Pakistani Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the basis of this understanding. The same thing was said to members of the Soviet delegation by President Ghulam Ishaq Khan of Pakistan and Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif.

The similarity of views on the main issue of the attitude toward an Afghan settlement helped considerably to bring positions closer on other matters as well. Both sides put a high value on the plan proposed by UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar. In their view, it could make a real and positive contribution to the problem's solution. At the same time, according to the heads of the Pakistani Ministry of Foreign Affairs, certain elements of the UN plan require substantial clarification. In particular, this concerns the internal Afghan dialogue, the monitoring of a cease-fire, the procedure for the formation and composition of a transitional government, the holding of elections, and other points.

Judging by statements of representatives of the Pakistani foreign policy department, Islamabad attempted to focus attention on the results of the recent trilateral consultations among Pakistan, Iran, and the Afghan mujahidin, at which the conclusion was reached that any settlement of the Afghan problem should lead to a change of the present government in Kabul. The Soviet representatives, for their part, stressed the need to take into account the current realities in Afghanistan. One of these is the existence in Kabul of a government that the mujahidin have not managed to topple by military means.

At the initiative of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs delegation, the issue of the fate of former Soviet servicemen held captive by the mujahidin was raised. The Pakistani side gave an assurance at the highest level that it was prepared to give all assistance necessary to find them. At the same time, the Soviet delegation was informed that there is not a single prisoner on Pakistani territory. Those who are alive are in the hands of the armed opposition in Afghanistan, which makes it difficult to establish contact with them.

In the course of the meetings and consultations, much attention was devoted to bilateral relations between Pakistan and the Soviet Union. An understanding was reached that a settlement of the Afghan problem would, to a large extent, help to decisively strengthen ties between the two countries and to place them on a qualitatively new level.

Article Views Negotiations

OW1308050091 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1520 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Article from the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature by diplomatic correspondent A. Mayorov; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The visit to Pakistan of a delegation from the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs headed by special ambassador Nikolay Kozyrev is being associated in Soviet diplomatic circles primarily with attempts to come to an agreement on one of the main aspects of the settlement of the Afghan issue, the halting of arms supplies to the warring parties in Afghanistan. During the Moscow Summit between the USA and the USSR at the end of June the two sides (in this case USSR Minister of Foreign Affairs, Aleksandr Bessmertnykh and Secretary of State, James Baker, whose negotiations ran parallel to those of the two presidents) discussed the possibility of a "negative symmetry". According to earlier joint statements the Soviet Union and the United States are as one on the issue of halting arms suplies to the Afghan Government and the Mujaheddin. However, the anticipated Soviet-American statement on Afghanistan was not released in Moscow since, as was reported at one of the USSR Foreign Ministry briefings, "the two sides were still unagreed upon certain issues". According to one version circulating among the Americans, the Soviet Union was unable to name a precise date when it would cut off military aid to Kabul.

Where do Afghanistan's weapons come from?

The Soviet Union explains the present difficulties by the fact that a mere Soviet-American treaty is, in itself, not enough to close off military supply channels into Afghanistan. The Soviet side believes that the positions of the two warring parties will be unequal since the Afghan opposition is supplied with arms not only by the USA, but also by Pakistan and Saudi Arabia.

Another problem is that of control over the halting of arms suppoies to Afghanistan. According to Soviet workers in Kabul, Soviet arms come into the country via the port at Khairaton, the border crossing at Torgundi and the capital's airport. Therefore, a clear picture of how the USSR is fulfilling any future agreement on arms limitation will be possible only if international observers are stationed at the aforementioned points. It is even harder to envisage the monitoring of the other sides, since arms are "constantly" being poured into the country, mostly from Pakistan. They are transported along caravan routes which are in many cases completely impossible to monitor.

Will the UN plan become the basis for a settlement?

If the perspectives for an Afghan settlement are born in mind as a whole, then it is a significantly positive fact that the USSR, the United States and other outside forces involved in the conflict responded favourably to the declaration by UN Secretary, Perez de Cuellar. The basis of a settlement to the Afghan issue is laid down in a five-point plan and the need to reach agreement on a national as well as an international level is stressed

Kabul favours dialogue, suggesting that representatives of all Afghanistan's political forces, including moderate opposition groups, Islamic fundamentalists and the former Afghan king, Zakhir Shakha, met around the negotiating table. As far as the halting of arms supplies is concerned, Soviet diplomatic sources think that much if not all will depend on whether or not the opposition parties, including those controlled by the leader of the Islamic Party of Afghanistan, G. Khekmatiar, develop a unified approach. Mr. Khekmatiar's party does not support the Secretary General's plan.

Pakistan: the conflict can only be solved politically.

Special ambassador Kozyrev's visit to Islamabad is being seen as a continuation of the Soviet diplomatic contacts made over the last few months with the Pakistani leadership. During the exchange of opinions the Pakistani side began to indicate that peace in Afghanistan could be achieved by political means alone, a "DP" [Diplomatic Panorama] correspondent was told at the Department of Middle Eastern Countries.

USSR To Restore Diplomatic Ties With Israel

LD1308041691 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 2000 GMT 12 Aug 91

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] The Moscow correspondent of the Israeli newspaper JERUSALEM POST, citing well-informed sources, reports that the Soviet Government has approved a plan according to which Soviet and Israeli foreign ministers will announce the restoration of diplomatic relations between the two countries during their meeting at the UN General Assembly in September.

Further on Soyuz Delegation's Visit to Iraq

Delegate Alleges U.S. 'Bribe'

LD1208213391 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 2000 GMT 12 Aug 91

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] A sensational and scandalous statement was made by Golovanov, deputy coordinator of the Soyuz group of deputies. While discussing the results of the recent trip by Soyuz members to Baghdad, which they never denied was sympathetic with the regime, Golovanov told SOVINFORM AGENCY in an interview that the Iraqi parliament allegedly has unofficial information that a prominent Soviet politician received a $3 million bribe from the Americans. According to Golovanov, it is

believed in the Iraqi parliament that this is the very reason explaining the USSR position toward Iraq during the Persian Gulf crisis.

'Admiration' for Saddam Criticized

PM1208113991 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Aug 91 Union Edition p 4

[A. Ostalskiy, G. Charodeyev report: "'Ours' Opt for Saddam Husayn"]

[Text] "Necessity to lift the economic blockade of Iraq," "noninterference" in its "internal affairs," "condemnation of the position of the leadership of the United States and some European states," support for "the Iraqi side's desire to resume economic cooperation" with the USSR.

These are the main points of a joint statement adopted on the results of a visit to Iraq by a delegation from the "Soyuz" parliamentary group. Having held "official talks" with representatives of Iraq's National Assembly (parliament) there, "ours" agreed with them to develop "relations between both countries' parliamentarians through the exchange of visits and the coordination of action between them at international conferences."

Perhaps the paramount point was the fact that the "official talks" between the high parties were actually held on 1 August (in other words, on the very eve of the anniversary of Iraq's invasion of Kuwait), which is actually enshrined in the joint statement. The statement does not say a single word about this most lamentable event that occurred a year ago, and only condemns... the "aggression against Iraq." Thus, the Baghdad regime has gained moral support of sorts, and "Soyuz"—an opportunity to recall the glorious times when it was able to "remove" foreign ministers for their "incorrect" policy.

Judging by a press conference held a few days ago, "ours" are convinced to this day: The Soviet Union was not at all "on the right side" during the Persian Gulf war. Why? Simply because, as "ours" were bluntly told in Iraq, "one specific official, and a really high-ranking one at that, received so many millions to do exactly this." Evidently afraid that the audience would not realize that Eduard Shevardnadze was the target of the groundless accusation, Ye. Kogan pointed at one of those present who looked like a Caucasian, and said: "One of your compatriots." Another claim by participants in the press conference which, in principle, could provide grounds for a libel suit: That "dozens of people were exterminated" in Kuwait allegedly for their beliefs, and in one case "a newspaper's entire editorial office."

Yevgeniy Kogan and other delegation members made no secret of their admiration for Saddam Husayn's "strong and willful personality." "I do not believe him to be angel (!), but I am willing to subscribe to the fact that he upholds his country's interests and is good at doing it," Ye. Kogan said.

Article Urges 'Leniance, Kindness' Toward Iraq

91UF1054A Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 7 Aug 91 First Edition p 5

[From the "International Comments" column by Lieutenant Colonel R. Mustafin: "The Iraqi Paradox"]

[Text] Sad and distressing news is coming from Iraq. The threat of famine in this country has become very realistic, according to a UN Food and Agriculture Organization report. The country is not capable of sustaining itself, nor can it buy the food it needs from other countries. Medical and sanitary conditions are deteriorating, as most of the water and sewage treatment plants have been destroyed, and city sewage systems are not functioning. The sick cannot be treated because drugs are in short supply. All this is affecting old people, women, and children worst of all. According to UNICEF, 30,000-35,000 Iraqi babies are being born with low birth weight because their mothers do not eat a normal diet. The future of the Iraqi nation is in danger.

The Iraqi people are currently living through a nightmare, and I think that it hides one of the paradoxes that are so typical of the Persian Gulf war that ended five months ago. The paradox lies in the fact that it was not the real culprit of the war that was punished; it was not those who tried to build up their own well-being and satisfy their own ambitions. The punishment came to affect the innocent and simple Iraqi people, the nation whose tragedy began almost the same time that Saddam Husayn came to power.

I cannot say that the world community does not realize the complete tragedy of the Iraqi people. Washington is prepared to offer a certain relaxation of the strict international sanctions and to remove restrictions on food and medical supplies to Iraq. The UN Security Council is considering the possibility of allowing Iraq to sell its crude oil to cover its people's. humanitarian needs. Resolutions are being prepared that should establish the control procedure exercised by the United Nations at every stage—starting with the sale of Iraqi crude oil and ending with the distribution of essential commodities bought with that money.

But I think that all this is being done too slowly. In any case, things are not moving as quickly as the decisions to start military action against Iraq were. It is true that a much depends on Baghdad, for instance, on how sincere Saddam Husayn is about refusing to play hide-and-seek with the international inspectors checking the presence or possible production of weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, and on how prepared he is to comply with the demands outlined in the UN resolutions. Some progress has been seen in this respect, for instance, in order to relax the sanctions, Baghdad offered to return to Kuwait some of the gold ingots that Iraqi soldiers had taken out of the country and has already begun to do so. A number of documents were also approved which aim to prove that the democratization process required by the West has begun: the law on political pluralism, amnesty, and

the liberation of all political prisoners. Unfortunately, we must assert that Baghdad took none of these steps of its own free will; it has done all this under the threat of force, primarily from the United States.

For its part, the West is in no hurry to remove the economic embargo. The main reason for this foot-dragging is the removal of Saddam Husayn, which remains the coveted, though not very widely advertised, goal. It seems that the West is still hoping that Iraq's extremely difficult position will make its people, the military before anyone else, rise up against Saddam. Such an event cannot be totally excluded from the realm of possibility. My personal opinion, however, is that this is rather unlikely at the present time, as Saddam Husayn is in firm control of both the Republican Guard and the security forces.

In this respect, I would like to say the following: This policy of the West might bring results; however, at present it obviously contradicts the high moral principles that were upheld so passionately before the military operations to liberate Kuwait began. For the simple reason that every day of foot-dragging on resolving the issue of aid to Iraq means new victims among Iraqi children, women, and old people.

Can it be that our kindness and compassion were only good enough to shed profuse tears over the birds dying in the Persian Gulf oil slick while pretending that nothing terrible was taking place in Iraq? I think that the time has come to display lenience and kindness toward the defeated.

Commentator Views Release of Western Hostages

LD1208195191 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 1210 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Aleksandr Pogodin commentary]

[Text] Next Aleksandr Pogodin comments on last week's release of three citizens of France, Britain and the United States held hostage by extremist groups in Lebanon.

Deep satisfaction with the release of innocent people and the desire to share their families' joy is probably the first and most natural response to these events. At the same time, one must appreciate those who exerted efforts to bring about these hostages' release in the first place—the United Nations and its secretary general, Perez de Cuellar. In his statement made on 11 August, U.S. President George Bush also mentioned the active role of Syria, Lebanon and Iran in promoting this humane act.

A few words about the political sides of the affair. American observers have been saying that a year ago one couldn't have imagined that Washington can say anything positive about its old-time antagonists Syria and Iran. As we've seen, the situation has been changing in the first place thanks to general positive trends in the Middle East climate. Syria's positive response to the idea of a peace conference to settle the Arab-Israeli conflict became one of the major factors for peace in the region. Now both Syria and Lebanon are reported to have taken effective measures to bring about these hostages' release. Tehran also has used the opportunities at its disposal to put pressure on the groups under its influence.

Naturally all this raises one's hopes, but a great deal is still to be done to eliminate the problem of terrorism as such, of which hostage taking is a manifestation. The need for doing away with state terrorism carried out not by individual groupings but governments is much in evidence. For instance, in Israeli jails there are about 400 Lebanese kidnapped from Lebanon by Israeli commandos. One would like to hope that, as the chances for a peace settlement look real, the Israeli Government will display goodwill and walk its part of the way towards peace in the region, writes Aleksandr Pogodin.

Sub-Saharan Africa

Minister Discusses Results of South Africa Visit

LD1308050491 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1430 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Moscow, 12 Aug (TASS)—In an interview to a Tass correspondent after the conclusion of his visit to South Africa, Valeriy Nikolayenko, USSR deputy minister of foreign affairs, stated that the chief purpose of the visit was a meeting with Nelson Mandela, President of the African National Congress of South Africa (ANC), who, on the instructions of Mikhail Gorbachev, received confirmation of an invitation to visit the USSR. Conversations also took place with leading figures of the South African Government and representatives of a broad spectrum of South African society. Describing the reception he had received as "favorable and friendly," the deputy minister noted that in the course of the talks both the ANC and the government had set out their respective views on ways of achieving a political settlement in South Africa, something to which, in their view, there is no sensible alternative.

The meetings, Valeriy Nikolayenko noted, increased his confidence that in spite of mistrust between the government and the ANC, which still exists, they and other interested sides will resume in the near future the negotiating process and will seek reasonable compromises. He stressed that the development of the situation in the South Africa will greatly affect the situation in the South African region on the whole.

Touching upon relations between the USSR and South Africa, the Soviet diplomat noted that their development meets the national interests of our countries. "At present, when the apartheid system has not yet been fully dismantled and the full-scale talks about South Africa's future have not yet started, we cannot begin to develop relations on a wide scale basis," he said. "At the same time the changes taking place in South Africa, brought about both by President Frederick De Klerk's reforms

and by the policy of the ANC leadership aimed at political settlement, create favorable conditions for gradual establishment of cooperation between the USSR and the South Africa, whose peoples have long expressed interest in each other."

Yanayev Receives Delegation From Sierra Leone

LD1208225691 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 1800 GMT 12 Aug 91

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] USSR Vice President Yanayev today received a delegation of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Sierra Leone, which is in Moscow on an official visit, headed by the Speaker of the House, William Niaka Stephen Conteh.

Comrade Yanayev informed the members of the delegation about the changes in the economic and sociopolitical life of the country, about the USSR's foreign policy and its approach to a number of international and regional problems. In this context, particular interest was focused on the situation in Africa and on moving forward a political dialogue with the African countries at all levels.

Seamen Stranded in Nigeria To Receive Help

91UF1042A Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 3 Aug 91 Union Edition p 5

[Article by G. Charodeyev: "The Tragedy of Soviet Fishermen in Lagos: The Call for Help Has Been Heard"]

[Text] **IZVESTIYA (No. 181) wrote about the plight of the Soviet fishermen who were stranded on the African coast through the fault of the Soves joint-stock company and other incompetent organizations and their officials.**

Senior engineer Yevgeniy Moshin died from disease, while five others remain in Lagos (Nigeria), still in a serious condition. Even a few days ago it was still impossible to transport the body of the deceased and the sick people back home because Soves had no hard currency to pay for their transportation. However, our correspondent was told by the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs that their SOS call was heard back home in the Soviet Union as a result of the fishermen's appeal to RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] President B. Yeltsin, press reports, and the efforts applied by our diplomats. The USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs took steps to clarify the situation to the utmost degree for those agencies that had the means of dealing with the situation; it cooperated with the RSFSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which was assured by Soves that all measures necessary to save the Soviets would be taken. The USSR embassy in Nigeria, in its turn, tried and is still trying to use all possible means to overcome the crews' difficulties and resolve their problems.

According to the latest information, the Rosrybkhoz association, together with the USSR Fish Industry Workers Union Central Committee, found some hard currency to pay the airfare for the sick fishermen and to pay for airlifting the deceased's coffin to the USSR. The fish-freezing sea-going ship Oka is supposed to arrive in Lagos on 4 August. It will provide food for the seamen and fuel for their boats so that they can return home. A rescue ship is also going to Lagos as an extra precaution. It will arrive there on 7 or 8 August.

East Europe

Soviet Naval Ship Visits Varna, Bulgaria

LD1108130591 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0700 GMT 11 Aug 91

[By Tass correspondent Vladimir Abrosimov]

[Text] Sofia, 11 Aug (TASS)—Friendly contacts are continuing between sailors of the Soviet Union and Bulgaria. The antisubmarine cruiser Moskva, under the flag of Admiral Mikhail Khronopulo, Commander of the USSR's Black Sea Fleet, arrived for a visit to the city of Varna on Saturday. On the same day, the Soviet admiral was received by Vice Admiral Dimitur Pavlov, Commander of Bulgaria's Naval Forces.

The visitors laid wreaths at the bas-relief to the famous Russian naval commander Admiral Fedor Ushakov which was put up in this Bulgarian city. Under his command in 1791, 200 years ago, the Russian Navy won a major victory over a Turkish flotilla in a battle off Cape Kaliakra near Varna.

The visit's agenda includes meetings between the Soviet sailors and their Bulgarian naval counterparts.

Kuptsov Receives Czech Party Chairman Svoboda

PM0908133991 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Aug 91 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report from "Official Announcements" feature]

[Text] J. Svoboda, chairman of the Communist Party of Bohemia and Moravia, who was visiting Moscow 5-7 August at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee, met with V.A. Kuptsov, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Communist Party Central Committee.

During the conversation they had an absorbing exchange of information about the situation in both parties and discussed topical issues relating to the further development of interparty cooperation.

J. Svoboda warmly congratulated V. Kuptsov on his election as leader of the Russian republic party organization.

Hungary's Antall on Conflicting Financial Claims

PM0908120991 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 Aug 91 Union Edition p 1

[Report from IZVESTIYA, TASS, INTERFAX, IAN, REUTER, UPI roundup: "Hungarian Premier on Soviet Troops Withdrawal"]

[Text] At a meeting in Budapest with Finnish Parliament Speaker Suominen, Hungarian Prime Minister Antall touched, in particular, on the financial issues relating to the Soviet troops' withdrawal from Hungarian territory. He noted that the Soviet Union does not recognize the Hungarian side's demands to pay for the damage done to the environment by the presence of Soviet troops in Hungary. On the contrary, the USSR is demanding that it be paid approximately 3 billion rubles for the facilities it is leaving behind. Antall stated that offsetting the demands would be an acceptable solution for Hungary, but this should be kept separate from the Soviet Union's foreign trade debt, which stands at $1.5 billion.

Group Completes Inquiry Into Shooting of Poles

LD1208201191 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1047 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Kharkov, 12 Aug (TASS)— The group established to investigate the shooting of Polish military internees in Kharkov jail in 1940 and their burial in the parkland outside the city has completed its work here. Spokesmen of the main military procuracy of the USSR and Polish justice ministry have announced that the facts have been confirmed.

The file on the criminal case, initiated on the instructions of the USSR President in 1990, now runs to 46 volumes. It contains testimony, documents, letters and records of investigatory procedures.

"We have tried to establish the truth", said Polish deputy procurator Stefan Sniezko. "The truth is above grievance and ambition. Pain for the innocent men who died, who were the flower of our military and civilian intelligentsia, is not mixed with resentment against the land of Kharkov. History has already given a just assessment of Stalinism. Here, too, our opinion coincides with that of our Soviet colleagues."

West Europe

Turkish Minister Cited on Relations With USSR

LD1208181491 Moscow TASS in English 1756 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Ankara August 12 TASS—Developing relations between the Soviet Union and Turkey on the basis of mutual trust and friendship, respect for territorial integrity, non-interference in the internal affairs and mutual benefit was always one of the most important priorities in Turkish foreign policy, Turkey's Prime Minister Mesut Yilmaz told TASS Director General Lev Spiridonov.

First of all, the Soviet Union is our neighbour and Turkey is convinced that close relations which it maintains with neighbouring countries have great significance in terms of the preservation of peace in the region and in the world.

Yilmaz expressed conviction that at present, when old political structures and attitudes became a thing of the past in the world and Europe and new structures only begin to shape up, the relations that existed between Turkey and the Soviet Union for 70 years would assume totally new dimensions. They would be marked by lasting cooperation in light of changes in Europe and the new principles of Soviet policy, pursued under the leadership of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

As for the relations which Turkey has established and develops with certain Soviet republics, they are a factor which enriches Turkey's relations with the Soviet Union on the whole and contributes to the well-being of the peoples of the two countries.

The prime minister emphasised that he regards the treaty on friendship, good neighbourliness and cooperation between the USSR and Turkey, signed during President Turgut Ozal's visit in March 11-16, 1991, to the Soviet Union as an historic document which must give fresh impetus to bilateral relations.

The current government, Yilmaz noted, plans to turn Turkey into a serious economic power in the region and in the international arena by the year 2000.

The Black Sea Economic Cooperation Project, proposed by Turkey, is a model of a new type of mutually advantageous cooperation which, pooling the efforts of the countries of the region, will help both better evaluate existing economic possibilities and further promote them.

The states of the region have mainly bilateral economic relations. The past few years have witnessed important steps, especially in Turkey's relations with the Soviet Union. The Black Sea Economic Cooperation Project can contribute additional elements to mutually advantageous economic cooperation between the two countries.

The prime minister noted with satisfaction that the Turkish position is positively received in some countries. In particular, completion of the eight-month work, in Moscow on July 11-12, 1991, on the document that laid the foundations of Black Sea economic cooperation provides graphic proof of the unity of "our views and desire to further develop economic ties."

Hopefully, after the document is signed in Turkey concrete work will begin and yield swift results. As for the Turkish economy, it underwent structural changes which began in 1980 and were finalized in 1983 when the government of the Motherland Party came to power,

Yilmaz emphasised. The main change is to reorient the economy to the foreign market and switch it over to a system of free market.

The success of the Turkish economy in the 1980s is largely due to a decision to forego the old economic policy for the modern market-based economy. Despite all the difficulties that reforms entailed at the time, the Turkish economy became now so flexible and robust that it could go through the Gulf crisis without major losses.

The main economic guidelines of the government of the Motherland Party, from 1980 to this day, are free prices, a liberal regime of foreign trade, a real exchange rate of currency, the attainment of its convertibility, free interest rates, and the privatisation programme.

Efforts, undertaken in accordance with these principles, and development of theory underlie Turkey's rapid progress towards a modern economy. In the past ten years exports grew six-fold. The country is exporting more industrial goods than agricultural products. If previously, the volume of foreign trade was roughly 10 per cent of the national revenue, in the past few years it has exceeded 30 per cent. Major changes occurred in the sphere of tourism, industry, finances and construction.

Soviet Sailor Seeks Asylum in Shetland Islands

LD1308032491 London PRESS ASSOCIATION in English 0100 GMT 13 Aug 91

[Text] A Soviet seaman swam half a mile to seek asylum in the Shetland Islands, it was disclosed today. The man, the third Soviet refugee to arrive in the islands in a fortnight, jumped over the side of a fish factory ship anchored off the port of Lerwick and swam to the island of Bressay in the pitch dark. A Home Office spokesman said today that the man's application would be considered on its merits.

Yanayev Receives FRG's Modrow 5 Aug

PM1208102791 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 Aug 91 Union Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Conversation Held"]

[Text] On 5 August, USSR Vice President G.I. Yanayev received H. Modrow, FRG Bundestag deputy and honorary chairman of the Party of Democratic Socialism.

A conversation took place in which certain aspects of Soviet-German relations were considered.

Laptev Receives Swiss Parliamentarian Nebiker

LD0908191391 Moscow TASS in English 1230 GMT 09 Aug 91

[Text] Moscow August 9 TASS—Ivan Laptev, chairman of the Council of the Union, one of the two houses of the Soviet parliament, received in the Kremlin today Hans-Rudolf Nebiker, deputy chairman of the National Council of Switzerland's Federal Assembly.

They had a substantive exchange of views about the two parliaments' activities.

Laptev told the Swiss parliamentarian about the process of change that is taking place in the USSR. They also discussed topical international issues.

Political & Social

Gorbachev Endorses State Property Fund

LD1208191291 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 1800 GMT 12 Aug 91

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] By a decree of the USSR President Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, the position of the USSR State Property Fund has been endorsed. It is a question of a body of state power which operates within the USSR Cabinet of Ministers and which is accountable to the President and the Supreme Soviet. One of its functions is the protection of the property rights and interests of the USSR.

Fund Outlined

LD1208225591 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1907 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Moscow, 12 Aug (TASS)—USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev confirmed by decree on Saturday the provisions of the USSR State Property Fund. The document says that this fund "is authorized to represent the interests of the state regarding property in Union ownership," and that in its activity "it is guided by the USSR Constitution, the laws of the USSR, other decisions by the USSR Congress of People's Deputies and the USSR Supreme Soviet, the acts of the USSR president, the decisions and instructions of the USSR Government, and also by the present provisions."

Among the obligations laid on the State Property Fund is the defense of property rights and interests of the USSR and the monitoring of the efficient use and safe-keeping of USSR property. It will be involved in elaborating and organizing the fulfillment of the program of destatification and privatization of state Union enterprises and analyzing its implementation. To fulfill the tasks facing it, the State Property Fund, among other things, has the right, bearing in mind the proposals by the work forces, to determine the form and procedure of the destatification or privatization of state enterprises in Union ownership and to determine the proportion of shares [aktsiya] remaining in Union ownership when state Union enterprises are being restructured into shareholding companies [obshchestvo]. Decisions on questions of destatification and privatization of enterprises under the joint jurisdiction of the USSR and republics are taken by the State Property Fund jointly with the relevant authorized bodies of the republics.

NOVOYE VREMYA Rebuts Shenin Criticism

PM1208140191 Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No. 30 Jul 91 (signed to press 23 Jul) p. 15

[Letter by A. Pumpyanskiy, chief editor of NOVOYE VREMYA, to PRAVDA editorial staff: "Pertinent Opinion on 'Pertinent Opinion'"]

[Text] [The following item is accompanied by three small photographs—portraits of KGB Chairman Kryuchkov and CPSU Politburo member Shenin and a shot of Lenin reading a copy of PRAVDA. The first photograph is captioned: "In his 'secret' speech—which was actually intended for public consumption—KGB Chairman V.A. Kryuchkov tried to frighten the public and leveled complaints at the president. This was discussed in an article published in NOVOYE VREMYA No. 26." The caption to the second photograph reads: "O.S. Shenin, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, defended the KGB chairman, accusing NOVOYE VREMYA'S editors of violating journalistic ethics." The photograph of Lenin is captioned: "For the newspaper PRAVDA all authors are equal, but Central Committee secretaries are more so. The famous 'Discussion Sheet' feature did not have the guts to publish NOVOYE VREMYA'S Opinion."]

The following letter was sent to the newspaper PRAVDA 5 July. Apparently, following its own journalistic ethic, PRAVDA did not manage even in the space of two weeks to collect its thoughts and give a definite answer to the question of whether it would publish our letter. We have been forced to publish it here. We offer our apologies to our readers for the delay. It is not our fault.

To the editorial staff of PRAVDA

Dear Colleagues!

In edition No. 159 of 4 July you published a comment by Oleg Shenin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, under the "Pertinent Opinion" rubric—a response to the publication in the magazine NOVOYE VREMYA of two articles by my colleague Marina Shakina and myself. I would like to thank the CPSU Central Committee secretary for his attention to our modest work. I would be even more grateful if at the same time had been a little more precise, concrete, and conclusive. It will doubtless sound more natural if I henceforth address the author of "Pertinent Opinion" directly.

Esteemed Oleg Semenovich! You set out your complaint against my article in the following way: "The weekly's chief editor seems to have decided that M.S. Gorbachev, the president of the country, will not be able to decide without his help which members of the USSR Security Council are fit for their job and to what extent, as the USSR and world public were told in quite tactless form...." Brilliant sarcasm. In the Land of the Soviets the leadership is certainly not in need of the public's advice. But nevertheless there was not a single word about the USSR Security Council and its members in the article. It was about another security institution—the KGB, or to be more precise, about its chairman, or to be yet more precise, about his recent speech at a closed session of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

The speaker announced "in secret" but loud and clear that a catastrophe is threatening the country. This is by no means anything new; however, he did not detect it at all in the failure of the economic system, which has

become deadlocked, used up all its opportunities for growth, and demonstrated an all-around inability to satisfy human needs, but again in enemy intrigues. All his campaigning enthusiasm is directed against the market reform process, against a return to the world economy, against cooperation with the West.

It seemed to me that my thought was expressed sufficiently clearly to avoid false interpretations. It is unseemly for a person holding such an office to tell the deputies old men's tales about "agents of influence" and the CIA having destroyed our national economy, even if the old man is called Andropov. It is unseemly to frighten honest people with rumors that outside there is a second 22 June taking place and that there are plans for God knows who to occupy the Soviet Union. And indeed there is no necessity for these tear-jerking but menacing complaints that the present leadership is not heeding intelligence warnings, in the same way as Stalin did not heed them in the days prior to the catastrophe. If people today have stopped listening to such fantasies from the guys in flak vests, then all the better.

Meanwhile the question raised in the broader context was that distortions of the facts, political chicanery, and pseudo-ideological intrigues are completely intolerable on the KGB's part. That transferring the secret services' methods, or at least their style of operation, into politics is unacceptable for democracy.

You, Oleg Semenovich, decided to come to the defense of Vladimir Aleksandrovich. That is understandable as the CPSU is a party providing social protection for working people, and the KGB chairman may be categorized as a "working person." But you could have done this better.

In the first place it would have been more logical if you had addressed the press organ which had made the criticism. We would have given you a platform with pleasure. It is better to polemize in the same arena; all over the world this what people do. Having listened to one opinion, the people would listen to a different one, and thus a more complete, true picture is built up. But this way you have simply added all the PRAVDA activists to the circle of NOVOYE VREMYA readers. So what should we now do, print extra copies of No. 26? After all you did not intend to advertise us, did you?

Second, why is it that you are avoiding providing conclusive evidence of any kind?! Scandalous facts are adduced in the article—but you do not refute them. The facts are correct, but do you have grounds for drawing different conclusions from them? Put your arguments forward! Does it seem to you that Kryuchkov's speech was wise, carefully considered, and completely inoffensive with regard to the president? Well then, prove it from the elevated position your experience and standing gives you.

You advise us "not to forget about ethics." If political journalism stops analyzing politics and politicians, it will not only forget about ethics but lose itself and betray its calling.

There was a time when agitprop [agitation and propagation] convincingly transposed impartiality and obsequiousness. I do not think that people will have forgotten that so soon.

Deputies' Group Reviews Meskhetian Turks' Plight

PM1208151891 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Aug 91 Union Edition p 2

[Report by G. Shipitko: "A Twice Deported People"]

[Text] A session of the commission on problems of the Meskhetian Turk population set up by the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has taken place. The reason was a demonstration lasting many days at the Manege and the Supreme Soviet reception center in Moscow, by Meskhetian Turks demanding that a decision be adopted that they should return to their historic homeland in Georgia.

This people, more than 200,000 strong, has twice been subjected to unmerited deportation. The first time was when they were expelled from the southern oblasts of Georgia in 1944. The second was in the perestroyka years—in summer 1989, when the bloody tragedy occurred in Fergana. The emergency measures adopted at that time by the USSR Government and Supreme Soviet made it possible to save the people from extermination. They were shipped out to several oblasts of Russia, but the largest part ended up in Krasnodar Kray and Azerbaijan. Scattered over 270 rayons in the country, they are basically now deprived of the opportunity to preserve their identity as a people.

As was noted at the commission session chaired by L. Gorshkov, the quest for ways of resolving their problem and returning them to their homeland has been in progress for two years. Unfortunately the attempt to conduct a dialogue has been unsuccessful, both with the previous and with the present leadership of the republic. This stance basically means that the people are fated to defend their own rights. But not in ways that lead to confrontation, and especially confrontation with the USSR Supreme Soviet, which has repeatedly proclaimed the legitimate right of Meskhetian Turks to return to Georgia.

On 19 July the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of Nationalities submitted a request to the president and Supreme Soviet of the Republic of Georgia to examine the question of the return of the Meskhetian Turks to their traditional homes, proceeding on the basis of the fifth [Supreme Soviet] session on the repeal of all unlawful and criminal acts sanctioning the forcible resettlement of peoples. Naturally, the resolution of such a complex problem requires both sides to show patience and

restraint and try to understand each other. There has not yet been any response to this appeal.

In our country today there are about a million refugees who have been forced to leave their homes. Fergana, Baku, Nagorno-Karabakh, South Ossetia. Emigration from the Baltic region has increased. All this, it was stated at the commission, requires comprehensive and, first and foremost, political solutions. And a law on refugees could be such a solution. But decisions can and must be adopted right now to create normal conditions for people in their temporary homes. A particularly difficult situation has arisen in Krasnodar Kray, where local organs of power have basically deprived Turks, as well as Kurds, Assyrians, and other refugees, of the right to buy food and banned them from obtaining residence permits and job placements. As a result, many families are without even a minimal material income. In the decision adopted, the commission appeals to the government of the USSR and Russia to help provide additional material aid for the Meskhetian Turks.

Representatives of the Meskhetian Turks—war and labor veterans, representatives of the "Vatan" society, and representatives of the USSR Defense Ministry took part in the commission's work.

Zhirinovskiy Negative on Departyization Decree

LD1208195791 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0949 GMT 12 Aug 91

[By TASS correspondent Fedor Angeli]

[Text] Kishinev, 12 Aug (TASS)—Vladimir Zhirinovskiy, leader of the USSR Liberal Democratic Party, has expressed a negative attitude to the decree on departyization issued by Russian President Boris Yeltsin. Interviewed by journalists at the conclusion of his visit to the Pridnestr and Gagauz regions, he stated that the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic President should be dealing with the economy and the nationalities question, and not depolitization.

Zhirinovskiy described the current political situation in Moldova as critical. In his opinion, the confrontation, mutual lack of recognition and conflicts which continue to prevail could end with "another clash". He supports the independence of the Pridnestr and Gagauz republics. If Moldova wishes to be independent, then other peoples within it will also strive for independence", Zhirinovskiy said.

Regarding the role of the CPSU in the life of the Soviet Union, Zhirinovskiy said that the party "must be given the chance to rest, to recover and, perhaps, cut down its numbers and adopt a new programme".

He was negative regarding the process of working out a new union treaty. Zhirinovskiy described those participating in it as "weak people of low competence," and the process itself as a deal. "It would be better," he stated. "not to think about a new union treaty but to change the union constitution, to give more economic rights to all the regions and introduce self-administration of all the territories of the Soviet Union."

Vladimir Zhirinovskiy considers that strong executive power and a strong young president can extricate the USSR from the crisis. "If we do not have such a combination then the country will continue to go through a crisis," he claims.

CPSU Rebuffs Paper's Allegations on Finances

PM1208141191 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Aug 91 Second Edition p 1

[Report by CPSU Central Committee Press Center: "Is It All the CPSU's Money? Yes, It Is. Following a Sensation"]

[Text] Under the heading "It Is All the CPSU's Money. Is It?", NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA of 8 August devoted a whole page to the party's finances including extracts from the party's working documents and a commentary to go with them.

We will not broach the ethical side of the action carried out by publication founded by the esteemed Moscow City Soviet in duplicating what were essentially stolen official materials. This subject quite possibly merits a separate discussion. But we cannot fail to turn our attention to certain passages from the commentary prefacing the documents. Its author, Yu. Lebedev, citing for example an anonymous "employee of the administration apparatus" expresses doubt that the 500 million rubles [R] allocated from the CPSU budget to the elimination of the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster, were spent as they were intended. He accusess N. Kruchina, administrator of affairs of the CPSU Central Committee, of "concealing" a "special party hard currency account."

The CPSU Central Committee Press Center turned to N. Kapanets, deputy administrator of affairs of the CPSU Central Committee, for an explanation.

"I am surprised not so much by the publication of materials on the party budget in NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA," Nikolay Sergeyevich said, "as by the editorial office's desire to turn them into a sensation.

"The CPSU strictly observes the USSR Law 'On Public Associations' under which political parties must annually publish their budgets for general information. Incidentally, our party introduced this practice even before the aforesaid law was adopted. You can easily find that out. It is enough to familiarize yourself with the contents of the IZVESTIYA TSK KPSS from 1989 (Nos. 1, 6, and 11) which contain detailed information about the implementation of CPSU budgets in 1987-1989. Furthermore, comprehensive information about the party budgets in 1989 and 1990 was reported at the 28th CPSU Congress and was then published in the party press. The record of

the implementation of the CPSU budget for 1991 will be published in full in the journal IZVESTIYA TSK KPSS.

"It would be a good thing if other parties followed our example in accordance with the aforesaid law.

"Now something about the R500 million allocated on the decision of the 28th CPSU Congress for the implementation of sanitary measures for children living in the area affected by the Chernobyl nuclear electric power station [AES]. There is no secret here either.

"Party resources were paid into the current accounts of the Ukrainian and Belorussian Communist Party Central Committees and to the Bryansk, Kaluga, Orel, and Tula RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Communist Party Obkoms [Oblast Party Committees]. They are being used strictly for the purposes recommended by the government commission for the elimination of the consequences of the Chernobyl AES disaster including for long-term programs such as the construction of special "Mother and Child" sanatoriums. Strict supervision is being exercised to make sure that the resources are being spent as they were intended.

"As for the attempts made by the author of the commentary in NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA to reproach N. Kruchina for "concealing" a hard currency account, then evidently this is a loose interpretation of the answer given by the administrator of affairs of the CPSU Central Committee at a press conference. I was at this press conference and I can remember that there was discussion of the existence of party hard currency bank accounts in foreign banks. The answer was in the negative and I can confirm it: The CPSU has never had a hard current account in any bank of a foreign country. The CPSU Central Committee Administration of Affairs current account in the USSR Bank for Foreign Economic Activity has existed for a long time. Party dues from Communists working abroad are paid into it. There is nothing unusual, still less anything unlawful in the fact that the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs transferred to this account the arrears that had built up with regard to party dues."

PRAVDA Answers Criticisms Voiced by Readers

PM0908125391 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Aug 91 Second Edition p 1

["Viewpoint" article by Vladimir Lyubitskiy: "C Minus for Behavior, or the Art of Reading Newspapers"]

[Text] "...Everyday life has scuppered the ship of love." This is said about family affairs when a sequence of everyday problems creates a lack of understanding among people who are as close as can be. But it seems highly applicable to today's situation in the party: Rough political weather has blown up in the country, and when you look around, some people have scuttled off to seek solace in the arms of others, some have simply filed for divorce, and yet others, even if they do remain within the bosom of the family, look as if they are going to grab hold of one another. And if you try to separate them and bring them to their sense, you get blows from both sides.

Politics is not, of course, the same as private life—it has its own rules and logic. But lack of understanding among kindred spirits here is even more tragic, because it affects the future of many people. And, indeed, no efforts should be spared to seek over and over again to make oneself understood and to seek to understand and help one another at this truly difficult period in our lives.

There has of late been a marked increase in criticism of PRAVDA from various rostrums, in the press, and also in letters. This is no wonder in itself: PRAVDA has never occupied a "critical no-go area," it has responded by word and deed to the sincere voice of its readers and also heeds them now, taking account of everything valuable, no matter what form of expression it takes. Particularly as the newspaper's journalists themselves see no few shortcomings in their work. But today something else seems to be involved. "The newspaper has recently become incomprehensible.... It won't do for the editorial office to dwell on secondary matters, will it?"—writes N. Kontsevoy, a Communist with frontline experience, from the city of Klintsy, Bryansk Oblast. The same reproach was leveled in a number of speeches made at the last CPSU Central Committee plenum. You even get the collection of signatures against particular articles organized in some party auditoriums—altogether in keeping with the spirit of "soap-box oratory," "strike mania," and "hunger strike-itis" which have been popular for a certain time now. A.V. Petrov from Moscow, a party member since 1980, has, consumed by anger, as it were, drawn the line: "Communists have only one central newspaper left—SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA."

It's one or the other: Either what we have is a misunderstanding leading to such extreme conclusions, or the newspaper is frankly required to change its course. But both are equally dangerous, as PRAVDA, despite the decline in its circulation, remains the party's biggest mass-circulation newspaper.

What, then, do our esteemed critics want and find wanting in it? They demand notably a "constant (!) confrontation of positions" on its pages, articles of "contrary opinions and discussion in the same issue," and "trenchant criticism of various party leaders, up to an including its secretaries." They acknowledge in so doing that such articles do appear in the newspaper, but... "they have not become the rule."

These objections were expressed most specifically by Yu. Prokofyev, first secretary of the Moscow Gorkom [City Party Committee] at the CPSU Central Committee plenum. True, after saying he was going to analyze "how our party literature behaves," he did limit himself to comparing the headlines in a single issue of PRAVDA and NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA. But this was enough to convict PRAVDA of "irrelevancy, of deliberately steering Communists away from pressing problems, and of a complete inability to analyze and predict a situation.

And the direct route to the breakdown of the party lies in the breakdown of party literature."

The charges are as serious as they are categoric. But let us try nevertheless to get to the bottom of this without undue emotion.

If you look at the files which constitute the almost 80-year-long history of PRAVDA, you will have no trouble in seeing that even in the years of greatest crisis for the party what the newspaper has given pride of place to is not interparty or intraparty polemics and "political battles," the ivory-towerism of which was so mocked by Lenin, but life. That very thing which Communists sought to change, finding mass support in this among the people. The economy is for us the most interesting politics: Changing particular tactical guidelines, depending upon the circumstances—Lenin remained a constant adherent to that principle. Only later, in the 1930s, was PRAVDA, like all of the press, transformed into a "forge" or, more accurately, into an anvil for the moral hammering of the "enemies of the people." The newspaper has really forsaken such a "position" and, one would like to hope, once and for all. People might say: But surely there is no need to defend the party in today's situation? There is. However this must be done, I think, not by "steel in the voice," but by means of ironclad arguments. And by actions, including actions in the parliaments, and via trade unions and women's, youth, and other organizations. And, most importantly, by defending the social interests of the people.

What, then, was the subject matter dealt with in that issue of PRAVDA which Comrade Prokofyev treated so scathingly to the "independent" press' amusement? Under the headline "Where Have the 'Blue Birds' Flown?" you have its "decipherment" printed in smaller type: "Will the Foodstuffs Appear on the Tables of the People of Volgograd?" But the speaker did not make that known. Or did he fail to see it? "Penelope Sets Sail" was, as the subheading makes clear, about the problems of the work and everyday life of seamen's wives. "Not Appearing in the Fields" (an article which the speaker also found amusing) was about the fact that the acute shortage of combines, due to lack of fuel and spare parts, threatens to delay the harvest and cause losses of grain. Is this, in the CPSU Central Committee Politburo member's opinion, "steering Communists away from pressing problems." At any rate, the "independent" press precisely does not "steer" its admirers in that direction!

The Democrats blame the Communists for everything, the Communists blame the Democrats.... And the people, it is as plain as day, are thoroughly fed up with it all. It is characteristic that the total membership garnered by all the newly appeared parties does not even add up to to the number of people who have left the CPSU. How, then, can you talk about a mass phenomenon. But the ultimate winners will be those who most successfully and intelligently give people their long-awaited deliverance from the dire straits in which they find themselves.

Incidentally, that same issue of PRAVDA contained a large article (and the first in the party press) on the Decree on Departyization and two pages under the "Discussion Sheet" heading, where along with other articles, there was that "confrontation" of positions so dear to the heart of Yuriy Anatolyevich. And it contained virtually every topic announced in the banner headlines of NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA, which is set up as a model for PRAVDA journalists. Save perhaps for one: "Is Gorbachev Long to Remain Still in the CPSU?"

Incidentally, regarding the demand for "trenchant criticism of party leaders, up to and including its secretaries." With hand on heart, few of them are known today for their "distinctive facial expressions." And if such does manifest itself, it happens, alas, somewhere not privy to PRAVDA's journalists. And should we criticize them sight unseen? Or is a specific secretary involved here? Then just say so directly....

By the way, I would note that since the start of this year the following have appeared in PRAVDA: A. Dzasokhov, B. Gidaspov, V. Polyanichenko, O. Shenin, A. Malofeyev, I. Antonovich, A. Rubiks, V. Anufriyev, V. Sekretaryuk, M. Burokevicius, N. Stolyarov, A. Melnikov and many other leaders of the CPSU and republic parties. So that if you applaud the conclusion regarding the "complete inability to analyze and predict a situation," then at least do so while also accepting it as self-criticism....

But at the same time I would suggest that the following be given serious consideration. Why does the multiparty system, which the CPSU proclaimed in full awareness of what it was doing, have the appearance so far of a squabble in a communal kitchen? Why is the market turning into highway robbery while failing to comfort either body or soul? Why does sovereignty lead time and again to a fight with daggers drawn? And finally, why, after all, is upholding civilized standards in all all these respects in a newspaper tantamount to betraying the party's interests? Yet these are precisely the charges leveled against PRAVDA today.

The letter by a V. Smal from Minsk is typical. It begins fully in tune with Yu. Prokofyev's speech: "You are surprised when you read PRAVDA: Is this really the CPSU Central Commitee organ, the publication founded by V.I. Lenin? " And ends in a style which might be envied perhaps even by the most consistent "democrats": "Incidentally, no one is going to subscribe to so-called PRAVDA any more. You will soon, very soon, be closed down, and your publishing facilities will be used to produce a rag called THE TRAITOR'S VOICE. The upcoming CPSU Central Committee will be the last for the party and your newspaper. And you will most likely be hurled from various floors of the building straight on to the sidewalk and there and then be delivered the coup de grace. God rest your soul!"

Yes, and our thanks. But the writer of that highly intellectual tirade did, unknown to him, touch on a very

topical theme: It is subscription time! The competition among newspapers to win over readers' sympathy is not as easy as it used to be: Given the misfortunes of the market, a struggle for survival is under way. You would think that in these conditions disputes would be disputes, but supporting a particular publication is not just a matter of personal taste for communists. But we get letters from time to time saying that after such an article I, your old and faithful friend, have decided not to renew my PRAVDA subscription. And you cannot understand: Does the writer like everything, without exception, carried in MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI, which he does nevertheless, judging by the letter, read regularly, or is he moved by that known mercilessness shown by Bolsheviks toward comrades' mistakes. In some places party committees have already rushed to disavow this "undesirable" newspaper. Incidentally, for more than a year meetings were held between PRAVDA staffers and readers at the Moscow CPSU Gorkom and Obkom [oblast party committees] Sociopolitical Center on the third Thursday of the month, where we readily and attentively listened to comrades' advice, comments, and wishes—but I never once chanced to see leaders of the capital's party organization there. How, then, is mutual understanding to be reached? It takes two to tango....

It is clear to everyone today that the dispute over the newspaper is a dispute over the party. And it cannot be solved by administrative measures. That is to say, it can be solved, the experience, as it were, exists, but will the truth thereby triumph?

No, this is a fruitless activity, awarding one another marks for "behavior." "Instead of uniting," Yu.A. Prokofyev remarked apropos of something else, "we have each of us started acting on our own responsibility in our party organizations and thereby exacerbated the disintegration of the CPSU as an integrated whole." Thus it is not perhaps worthwhile repeating our mistakes, is it?

TASS Reviews 13 Aug Soviet Central Press

LD1308063891 Moscow TASS in English 0612 GMT 13 Aug 91

["Soviet Press Review"—TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow August 13 TASS—The RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA newspaper on Tuesday carries an interview with Soviet Prime Minister Valentin Pavlov.

Commenting on the current situation in the country, Pavlov blames the command and administrative system for strangling the country's economy and causing economic chaos.

Although pessimistic about the implementation of cardinal economic reforms by the end of the year, Pavlov pointed to some economic stabilisation. He believes a transfer to market relations should encourage economic activities in the country. He stressed that a market economy is not a goal in itself but a means to make people's life better. People should understand this and realise the advantages of a market economy, and see the light in the end of the tunnel.

He said that the Soviet Union's strategic goal is to carry out radical structural reforms in the national economy and orient it to people's social needs.

RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA publishes Soviet Defence Minister Dmitriy Yazov's comments on some aspects of the Soviet-U.S. START treaty.

Admitting the treaty's benefit for both countries, Yazov stresses that it reduces the military confrontation between the Soviet Union and the United States and increases their security.

Yazov categorically denied that the treaty threatens the Soviet Union's security.

The Soviet trade unions daily TRUD carries a report about Russian President Boris Yeltsin's meeting with trade union leaders.

The newspaper describes a credit of trust to each other in assessing events, plans, and activities of the supreme power and trade unions as the most important result of the meeting.

"A party organisation leader can successfully work at a plant according to his speciality," Russian Minister of Justice N. Fyodorov told the KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA, commenting on the Russian president's decree on "departisation" (the withdrawal of party structures from state organisations).

The decree prohibits political activities and battles in state organisations, which have to reconcile public as well as political points of view.

The Soviet Communist Party daily PRAVDA carries Deputy Russian Prime Minister Oleg Lobov's comments on the law on privatisation of housing in the Russian Federation.

He told the newspaper that a housing market in the country will boost its economic development. The model of ownership of housing that is being introduced in the Soviet Union has long been operating in many countries.

PRAVDA also offers an article about the Moscow central stock exchange. Its chairman Eduard Tenyakov said that the market of securities that has begun operating in the country is a turning point in the country's economic activities.

In the rubric "Discussion Page," the newspaper publishes V. Nikiforova's article about a constituent conference of the Democratic Party of Russian Communists recently held in Moscow.

The Soviet Communist Party Central Committee has condemned this action as violating the party charter. Nikiforova tries to answer who needed this conference on the eve of the publication of a draft programme of the

Communist Party and find a line that separates various viewpoints on the party's renovation from attempts to divide it.

The Soviet military daily KRASNAYA ZVEZDA offers an article about the Chinese Army by Chi Haotian, chief of the General staff of the Chinese People's Liberation Army, who is in the Soviet Union on an official visit.

Chi Haotian tells about plans to modernise the Army and reduce the country's armed forces, as well as about conversion of projects and social security of Chinese servicemen.

Vsevolod Ovchinnikov, a PRAVDA political observer, speaks about most favoured nation status in trade between the United States and the Soviet Union and China. He notes that the United States considers this entirely economic category from a political viewpoint, using it as a means of pressure on these countries.

The SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA newspaper publishes an article in which Soviet parliamentarians from the political faction Soyuz speak about their trip to Iraq.

They say that during the Gulf war, the allied forces intentionally destroyed many civil facilities in Iraq, including those built by Soviet specialists. Parliamentarians stress the need to develop cooperation between the Soviet Union and Iraq.

The latest events in Yugoslavia has been widely commented on by many newspapers. SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in the article "Through the Notch of Sight" considers inter-ethnic contradictions one of the causes of the conflict. The problem of inter-ethnic relations has always existed in Yugoslavia but it was hushed up and driven into the depth, the newspaper says.

"Yugoslavia is being shaken both literally and figuratively," PRAVDA writes. It is being disturbed by political and natural disasters, including several earthquakes over the past few days. The newspaper writes about Yugoslavia's recovery from these cataclysms.

KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA devotes some of its materials to the attempts of European countries to resolve the conflict in Yugoslavia to their own benefit.

Economic

Government Establishes Moscow Oil Exchange

OW0908133291 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1130 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Executives of major Soviet oil producing and oil-processing facilities in the country and of the Union Ministry for Oil and Gas Industry passed a Charter and Articles of Association for the Moscow Oil Exchange at a Thursday meeting.

Presumably, the new exchange will be officially registered within the next two weeks. To speed up the registration process, it was decided to halve the exchange's statutory capital from the originally proclaimed amount of 120 (million rubles) (under Russian law, an exchange is only registered if half its statutory capital has been paid up). The cost of a share was set at 150,000 rubles, and that of a broker's pit, at 800,000 Rubles.

Deputy minister of the Oil and Gas Industry Ilya Leshchinets reported that under the USSR President's decree, on oil process or a refinery gets 10 percent of the oil they extract or process, which means that some 32 million tons of oil can be sold to the highest bidder every year.

The Russian Ministry of Fuel and Energy Resources refused to participate in the organisation of the Moscow Exchange as it plans to set up another oil exchange (its constituent assembly is planned for September 5).

Churilov Foresees Problems

PM0608100091 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 3 Aug 91 Union Edition p 1

[IAN report from news agencies roundup: "Will Oil Be Removed From the Exchanges?"]

[Text] As Lev Churilov, USSR minister of oil and gas industry, stated, Soviet stock exchanges dealing in oil will not be able to exist for long in their present form.

In Lev Churilov's opinion, "stock exchange trade in oil is ahead of its time," since a market has not yet formed in the country for petroleum and petroleum products. A 100-percent state order is set for oil extraction enterprises. The procedure for application of the USSR president's April decree permitting base sectors of industry to sell 10 percent of their output at free prices has not yet been defined, IAN reports.

Ryabev: Fuel Prices Must Increase

OW1308023091 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1830 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Soviet Deputy Prime Minister Lev Ryabev has said that the price of gas must double and that of oil go up 15 percent. The price of petrol must be raised, too. Ryabev was speaking at a special meeting of the Cabinet that discussed preparations for the winter.

Ryabev warned that the situation with supplying power stations with fuel was rather serious.

He estimated this year's oil output at 525-530 mln. tons. The extraction of gas may be increased only if additional investment into the industry is made.

IF's [INTERFAX] correspondent reports that poor coordination of actions by Soviet businesses in foreign markets pushed the prices of oil and coal a ton down by 10-11 dollars.

Change in Oil Industry Funding Viewed

PM1208152191 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 Aug 91 Union Edition p 1

[Report by R. Lynev: "Emergency Step. Cabinet of Ministers Changes Conditions for Financing of Oil and Gas Sector"]

[Text] The question on everybody's lips is: Can the world's largest oil producer possibly need to import oil? You bet it can. After all, this is a country which supposedly grows plenty of grain but still needs to buy it. This is our country.

The situation as regards oil is as follows. Compared with the all-time high of 642 million tonnes in 1988, production fell to 607 million tonnes in 1989, 570 million tonnes last year, and is expected to be 510-520 million tonnes this year. And experts from the USSR Academy of Sciences' National Economic Forecasting Institute are predicting that, if measures are not taken, production could fall in the future to 490-500 million tonnes. This is in the context of established domestic consumption of 560-570 million tonnes and the fact that only by exporting no less than 135 million tonnes of oil will we be able to ensure imports of goods at the 1988-1989 level.

The largest fall in production is currently being registered by our main field—the West Siberia Field. This is already the second drop in production since the mid-eighties. The first drop was ascribed mainly to organizational and technical reasons: It was said that too many wells had been drilled and needed repair—which required the transfer of additional human and material resources to Siberia. All these essentially extensive measures were adopted. As a result the oil cushion, which had helped the administrative system to outlive its time, also proved of service to perestroyka for a while. But it did not last—the pressure was too great. After all, the state not only scrimped by pumping from West Siberia oil for which it paid the oilmen less than it would for mineral water (it kept the lion's share of the foreign-exchange income to itself). It also got more and more stingy with the foreign currency and budget funds reaching the oilmen, and economized on keeping the oil fields and pipeline systems in proper working condition. Here is a simple example: In the past six months the sector has failed to receive half of the funds it should have received from the country's stabilization fund. As a result, thousands of wells are currently standing idle, and most pipelines are in a state of major disrepair.

The savings on the social sphere and on people—on building accommodations and social, cultural, and consumer facilities for them and on providing them with food supplies, which fluctuate around the level of 60-80 percent of requirements—come out of the same familiar mold.

This already desperate situation has been compounded by shortages and merciless extortion via barter. All this has pushed oil and gas workers, the people servicing their sector, and their families to breaking point. And this has been reflected in the trade union's ultimatums to the country's leadership.

In this emergency situation the country's Cabinet of Ministers has decided, shall we say, to reopen somewhat the flow of funding to the oil and gas sector and its social sphere. Among the measures adopted are a considerable allowance on the exports tax and rate of payments into the sector stabilization fund, and relief on 20 percent of amortization payments into the all-Union stabilization fund. Moreover, the wholesale price of oil sent to oil refineries is being increased by R14 per tonne (this supplement will now go to the sector stabilization fund). The oilmen are also being allowed to use more of their foreign-exchange earnings from exporting their product than was the case in the past.

A substantive point in the Cabinet of Ministers' decree is the part instructing the USSR Ministry of Economics and Forecasting, the USSR Ministry of Finance, the USSR Ministry of the Petroleum and Gas Industry, and the "Gazprom" concern to work out before 1 October this year the state regulated prices for oil, gas condensate, and gas for 1992, bearing in mind production costs, the social needs of labor collectives, payment for the use of land, minerals, and other resources, environmental costs, capital investment, and taxes. These last measures, listed almost as an afterthought, can be seen as heralding a new and, for us, unusual economy in which oil, gas, and other natural resources are produced in a civilized way. For the time being, these measures are described in the most general terms. We will need to take a more concrete look at them—not least in IZVESTIYA—on many occasions. Until they are elaborated and introduced they will not have the proper effect.

Formation of Automobile Commission Announced

LD0908164191 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1000 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Text] Moscow, 9 Aug (TASS)—The interdepartmental commission set up by the USSR Cabinet of Ministers has been instructed to pinpoint possible foreign partners-investors for cooperation in developing and determining the most economically expedient ways of completing the construction of primary facilities for car production at the Yelabuga factory (Volga region). The commission has also been charged with carrying out a comprehensive appraisal of versions of a possible transfer of the facilities of the "Yelaz" production association to the "Kamaz" joint-stock company, and of the sale of unfinished industrial sites of the factory through international auction to foreign buyers on the condition they would not alter the factory's profile.

Leaders of ministries, banks, and production associations have been included in the commission. Its formation whas announced by the Cabinet of Ministers today.

Cabinet Views Harvest, Import, Energy Problems

LD1208212291 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1942 GMT 12 Aug 91

[By TASS observer Boris Grishchenko]

[Text] Moscow, 12 Aug (TASS)—The need to stabilize the food supply system within the country dictated the central item on the agenda of the latest session of the Presidium of the USSR Cabinet of Ministers. It was held today under the chairmanship of Valentin Pavlov, head of the union government.

The present moment is particularly acute inasmuch as, against the background of what is far from being the most bumper of harvests, the volumes of production and purchases of agricultural produce are declining in many regions. In order to deal with what is now a most important social task, it is intended to use a whole range of measures to insure the timely completion of the harvest and the fulfillment of state orders and contractual obligations for deliveries of agricultural produce and foodstuffs. Republican heads of government and leaders of union and republican departments stressed that the countryside cannot be left to deal with this year's difficult harvest alone. The collectives at enterprises of various industries located in regions where the fate of the harvest is being decided must also take part. As many of means of transport as possible—irrespective of what departments they belong to—are to be brought in to transport the grain, sugarbeet, potatoes, fruit, vegetables and other major types of produce. This was the decision of the Cabinet, and it was supported by the republican governments.

It is no less important, the session noted, that the progress of the harvest should be underpinned by a whole package of economic measures. There was discussion, in particular, of payment for work carried out by labor collectives according to purchase or contractual prices. Special attention was devoted to seeking out opportunities for increasing incentives for rural workers to sell produce to the state.

There was also discussion of measures to insure imported deliveries of raw materials, foodstuffs and materials for the agro-industrial complex. Despite all the diversity of the requirements of specific republics and regions, the firm view was expressed that these deliveries should be carried out in a centralized way. The necessary means and resources can only be collected through joint efforts.

The approaching and in all likelihood, difficult winter placed another question on the agenda of the session: that of measures to insure the national economy's fuel and energy. Outlining the steps which would provide an opportunity to implement the extraction and deliveries of coal, petroleum products and gas in the volumes necessary for the normal work of the whole national economic complex, the participants in the session proceeded primarily from the need to give maximum incentive to the work of the labor collectives.

The session discussed measures to improve finances and monetary circulation. First Vice Premier Vladimir Shcherbakov, who delivered the report, stressed: The most important steps envisaged by this part of the anti-crisis program of the Union Cabinet have been agreed with the governments of the sovereign republics, this is a pledge of their implementation by joint coordinated efforts. Special attention was paid to ways of implementing the social programs and insuring social guarantees during the transition of the economy onto the market track

TASS Cites Pavlov News Conference

LD1308140791 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1225 GMT 13 Aug 91

[By TASS correspondent Boris Zvereyev]

[Text] Moscow, 13 Aug (TASS)—The news conference by USSR Prime Minister Valentin Pavlov, which took place in Moscow today, concerned questions discussed at yesterday's sitting of the Presidium of the Soviet Government.

Among the most important themes of the sitting, the prime minister named questions on preparing for the forthcoming winter, and, in the first place, food and fuel provision.

Valentin Pavlov noted, in particular, that taking account of the imbalance in trade between the city and the countryside, participants in the sitting came to the conclusion that it was necessary to exchange grain directly for goods.

In the words of the prime minister, quite a few difficulties lie in store for the country in the sphere of supplying the economy with fuel. These difficulties, he noted, are caused by the fall in production during the miners' strikes and the need to replenish stocks, and by the change in energy policy guidelines due to the delay in commissioning a number of nuclear power stations' power units. For these and other reasons, Valentin Pavlov said, several regions of the country will experience a shortage of electric power. Among them are the northern Caucasus, the Rostov oblast, the Transbaykal region, and the Far East.

Speaking of the intentions of the leadership of Russia to raise the prices of oil in the country, Valentin Pavlov noted that since power engineering is at the basis of the "prices' pyramid", raising the prices of energy sources "will cause an explosion of all prices in the national economy." He reported that the question of raising the retail prices of fuel has not come up in the Union Government yet.

Questions of financial and monetary circulation were also examined at the sitting of the Presidium. In particular, taking account of the lead in growth of labor payments [over productivity] and the negative phenomena connected with this, the Ministry of the Economy proposed that prices and wages be frozen. However, the Soviet prime minister noted, this proposal was not supported by the participants at the sitting.

Aviation Official on Grounding's Economic Effects

PM1208110991 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 Aug 91 Union Edition p 1

[Interview with V. Gorlov, deputy minister of civil aviation, by correspondent V. Belikov, date and place unspecified: "Tens of Thousands Storming Ticket Offices While 130 Airliners Are Grounded"]

[Text] There is a shortage of around 200 replacement engines, there are not enough spare parts, and cockpit windows and braking equipment are scarce, as are passenger seats and even carpeting for aircraft cabins. August, which is the peak of the flying season, has always been the hardest month for our airmen, but currently the situation is simply catastrophic. IZVESTIYA's correspondent talked with V. Gorlov, deputy minister of civil aviation:

[Gorlov] We are already into the third quarter of the year, which is when Aeroflot should have been fully involved in final trials of the new types of aircraft we have ordered—the long-haul Il-96 widebody, the medium-haul Tu-204, and the short-haul Il-114. The problem is that these airliners will not start carrying passengers before the end of next year or early 1993. For instance, the first two Il-96's (on each of which we have already placed deposits of 100 million rubles [R], incidentally) have not yet reached the State Civil Aviation Scientific Research Institute airfield, where they should finally be beginning their flight testing program. It is too soon even to speculate as to when the other new Soviet aircraft will enter service.

We are being forced to fly on aircraft nearing the end of their working lives, or whose lives have been extended after careful inspections of each individual aircraft. This is not a cheap option for Aeroflot: This year alone we will be spending R100 million on service-life extensions! This means that we are financing... our own backwardness, since some of the money is spent on paying for the services of the very design bureaus which once developed these aging aircraft and are now unable to produce new models in good time.

[Belikov] I have repeatedly heard good things from your colleagues about the Tu-154M and Yak-42, which are already in production and service. These are quite modern airliners able to ease the new-aircraft shortage for a while.

[Gorlov] Indeed, airlines would be happy to get these airliners. But, unfortunately, production of them is not being increased, whereas their cost is increasing inordinately. The Yak-42 is being produced in what could almost be called negligible numbers, and yet the Saratov Aircraft Plant has managed to increase the price from R5.6 million to R10 million or more.

While this "price-rise game" was being played out, the enterprise's leadership was refusing to reach agreement with us on deliveries for this year. When a contract was finally signed, it turned out that the Saratov people wanted to sell to China more than half of the 15 Yak-42's—representing the plant's entire program for the year—without worrying in the slightest about the needs of Soviet civil aviation. Next year they plan to export all their airliners.

There are currently around 75 180-seat Tu-154M's in the Aeroflot fleet, but around 20 of them are grounded without their D-30Ku-154 engines (from the P. Solovyev Experimental Design Bureau). It transpired that the reliability of this key aircraft component was clearly inadequate. For every 25 hours that the engines are in operation engineers have to spend seven to eight hours on preventive ground inspections of what is essentially still a new engine. What possible chance do passenger-carrying flights have of making a profit!

Educated by bitter experience, we ordered 120 engines for the Tu-154M from the manufacturers. The refusal arrived straightaway—they would only make 45. After long talks and concessions on our part it was agreed that 60 of the engines would be manufactured, but by reducing output of similar engines for the long-haul Il-62M and the Il-76 freighter.

[Belikov] Forgive me, but this sounds like robbing Peter to pay Paul. Wouldn't it be easier to increase production of this very scarce item—all the more so in the context of the current conversion of military aircraft manufacture?

[Gorlov] Admittedly, I have never even heard anyone mention the possibility of the Ministry of the Aviation Industry converting an engine producer, even though we are constantly discussing the shortage of engines. Perhaps conversion will ultimately succeed in cutting this Gordian knot in our aviation sector. It would also be a good idea to look to the experience of foreign firms, which are increasingly often choosing a fundamentally different approach and devoting a great deal of attention and money to making service-life extensions for every unit more reliable. It was no accident that one of the main sensations at the recent Paris Airshow was the General Electric development engine, whose service life will be comparable to that of the state-of-the-art Boeing 777 superliner.

Of course, it would be a good thing if we were to acquire this engine too. Currently we need to ensure that the standardized Soviet-made PS-90A engine, which is fitted to the Il-96 and the Tu-204, provides a flying time of no less than 3,000-3,500 hours for each aircraft. Otherwise these expensive and complex airliners will be unable to pay their way on either domestic or international routes.

Shortages Slow Combine Harvester Production

PM0808091191 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 6 Aug 91 First Edition p 1

[Report by correspondent A. Shchegolev: "Combine Harvesters on the Embankment. Alarming Report from Krasnoyarsk"]

[Text] Krasnoyarsk—From the sidelines the picture is impressive: A column of not just a dozen, not even a hundred, but of several hundred combine harvesters has formed on the concrete embankment along the Yenisey River. The Krasnoyarsk people are getting used to it now, but visitors are perturbed by this highly serious issue. Why use this technology merely as demonstration equipment when it is so desperately awaited in the fields of Russia and other republics?

A. Machusskiy, deputy director of the "Kombaynoviy Zavod" Production Association, explained: "The vehicles have been test driven and prepared for the harvest, but they cannot be sent into the fields. Some have no control panels, others have no air-cooled or water-cooled radiators."

Literally on the eve of our conversation, two aircraft from Vagino, Smolensk Oblast—far from Siberia—flew into Krasnoyarsk carrying radiators. But there were only enough for one-and-a-half days. The Krasnoyarsk people are forced to incur excessive expenditure in order to obtain components for their basic output—the "Yenisey" grain-harvesting combines.

Anatoliy Ivanovich went on: "We are working under great pressure but still we are unable to fulfill virtually any of the tasks assigned to us. In July alone we sent around 200 vehicles to be 'laid up on the embankment' for want of air-cooled radiators."

Many things are in short supply, and the plant is on the brink of grinding to a halt because of a breakdown in supplies of coal from Krivoy Rog, pipes from Dnepropetrovsk, brackets from Tomsk, zinc anodes from Leningrad... The sorry list goes on and on. What is the use? How can this be explained to the emissary from Samara's "Lenin" Kolkhoz who is sitting in my interlocutor's waiting room? He came to get spare parts, which in these difficult times are more valuable than gold. Of course, the Krasnoyarsk people will help him. For the time being, spare parts production is on schedule and they are somehow managing to deliver them according to plan.

Not an hour goes by without an emissary from some corner of our country coming into Machusskiy's waiting room. And it is not always possible to help them. It is the age-old reason—production units are not guaranteed material and technical resources, not even to fulfill the state order.

That is not to say that the Siberians automatically refer to the objective reasons. The are looking for any acceptable way out so as not to halt production. But when the entire economy is unbalanced such a way out is not always available. In June, for example, suppliers from Vagino, Smolensk Oblast, sent a total of just 280 radiators to Krasnoyarsk. The plant's engine section stood idle for a whole week. And if the plant specialists had not "saved the day," only that many combine harvesters would have rolled off of the conveyor belt. They sent their workers to the plant in Orenburg which produces identical radiators. Thanks to this, a further 1,150 scarce components made it to Krasnoyarsk.

It goes without saying that it is not cheap to send up to 30 workers beyond the Urals each month, but there is no other option.

The same method was used with the rice harvesting combines sent to Birobidzhan. First of all they sent machines without control panels. Then their own experts were sent to carry out on-site installations. Installing a panel outside of plant conditions now involves payment of a special wage plus considerable off-site labor costs, and of course travel expenses, which are completely unimaginable since the April price hikes...

Is this really the way into market relations?

"If this is the way to enter the market, what will we be left with when we get there?", is the irritable reply from Krasnoyarsk. "Workers in the engine section, which comprises 147 highly qualified specialists, have already stated their terms: If production continues to be so intermittent, they will leave the combine harvester plant en masse."

Over the last one or two years, over 1,500 people have left the enterprise. They have gone to work in cooperatives, where their job and wages are guaranteed. Those who have left are people who not only know their job perfectly, but have also acquired apartments and kindergarten places for their children through the association. Against the background of the fact that the enterprise is still unable to provide suitable accommodation for one in five workers, the picture is truly gloomy.

"At the moment, nobody is taking responsibility for anything," A. Machusskiy cries indignantly. "However badly the democrats decry the Communist Party and blame it for the present situation, it was this same Communist Party that made sure people were answerable for deliveries and for meeting contract commitments. Now there is no demandingness, and nothing gets done... You have Prime Minister Pavlov claiming that the economy has stabilized, but I do not see or sense this from where I am sitting. We are no longer sliding but actually hurtling into the abyss. If this year's harvest is not gathered because of a lack of machinery, this will be a catastrophe... Calls resound more and more insistently at the ministerial level for machinery to be purchased abroad for dollars, when we don't even have dollars to buy medicines. I will never believe that Russian people are so stupid or lazy that they are incapable of making this equipment. We have to impose order and get the workers interested, then things will get done."

Almost the same opinion was heard in the smoking room of the engine shop, where once again work had ground to a halt because of a lack of component parts.

Dragging on his hand-rolled cigarette, one senior mechanic recalled: "We worked better during the stagnation period. We used to make up to 25,000 combine harvesters per year, and had planned to increase this to 40,000. But now, if we manage to make 15,000 we are doing well."

He fell silent, thought for a while, and then said: "It is all so terrible. We expected a lot from the first Russian president. We thought his first decree would be on imposition of order and discipline. Now we can see that we were severely mistaken."

Food Supply Problems for North, Far East Eyed

PM1208154591 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 8 Aug 91 p 1

[Report by Yevgeniya Pishchikova: "Tax in Kind Is Not Helping, Maybe We Should Try Bartering"]

[Text] The problems of supplying food to northern regions were discussed today at a session of the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Supreme Soviet Extraordinary Commission for Food—the destinations involved are not very far away, but northern regions that do not produce agricultural products are only supplied with flour and groats, and even then they do not receive full amounts. The commission session once again demonstrated the virtual collapse of the vertical power links that are supposed to regulate relations between the agro-industrial complex, which to all appearances has decided to live and work for its own benefit alone, and the immediate consumer, who has still not shaken off the old tradition of eating twice a day.

The volumes of food that are needed to supply northern and far eastern regions are included in the compulsory tax in kind, which was introduced for the first time this year. It would seem, however, that the coexistence of the repressive tax in kind and the commercial agricultural produce market—the mother of which at present is anarchy—is impossible. It became clear from the speech by Procurements Minister Leonid Cheshinskiy that the ministry is finding it hard to withstand competition from grain brokers, who can offer big farmers between 2,000 and 5,000 rubles per tonne of grain. N. Gorovoy, chairman of Krasnodar Kray Soviet Executive Committee, claims that the oblast is holding back deliveries of meat to the northern regions because in general it is not profitable for big farmers to produce meat. Hog production yields a profit of 6 percent; grain yields over 200. It is more profitable for big farmers to sell grain than to feed their livestock.

Farms are refusing to play ball with the state over the tax in kind, since in return they cannot expect to receive material and technical resources, gas, or even cigarettes for the combine harvester operators during the harvest. Ye. Komarov, chairman of the RSFSR State Committee for the Socioeconomic Development of the North, was forced to admit that if anything is going to save the northern regions from famine, it will not be the magnanimity of the big farmers but an order from the RSFSR Council of Ministers giving the northerners the right to dispose of 30 percent of production through barter deals—both within the Union and abroad.

'Intourist' Transformed Into Joint Stock Company

OW0608034491 Moscow Central Television First Program and Orbita Networks in Russian 1900 GMT 4 Aug 91

[Video Report by N. Kachalkin; from the "Utro" program]

[Text] The new economic relations in our country that are gaining in strength had to eventually influence the activities of an organization such as Intourist. Our report is about Intourist today.

[Begin recording] [Kachalkin] It is the height of summer, a time for holidays, vacations, and various tourist trips, particularly abroad. Those planning to go there with the help of Intourist will now have to pay exclusively in hard currency. And there is another innovation, Intourist has been transformed into a joint stock company. The association was launched a few days ago and it was noted in particular, that the company no longer owns any property but basically provides intermediary services in organizing visits to our country for foreign tourists and trips abroad for Soviet citizens.

However, this apparently did not scare away all of our travel enthusiasts because according to figures provided by Intourist itself, some 100,000 Soviet citizens will travel abroad with the help of this organization alone in 1991. For comparison, last year their numbers totalled 620,000. In other words, there has been a practically sixfold decrease in the number of Soviet clients of Intourist.

The Intourist joint stock company has already registered its charter. The company's main shareholders are the workers of the Intourist collective, who hold 40 percent of the shares, and a number of other joint stock companies whose activities are directly related to international tourism. [Video shows the Intourist and Cosmos Hotels, the inaugural meeting of the joint stock company, tourist offices and buses, then cuts to show an interview with V.A. Malinin, chairman of the board of the VAO (All-Union Joint Stock Company) "Intourist"]

[Malinin] We are looking at the future and planning our activities in order to promote tourism in the Soviet Union as much as possible through our company, and we are also setting ourselves other tasks which go beyond the framework of our company.

[Kachalkin] Do you have any competitors?

[Malinin] Of course we already have competition, this is now a fact of life, and we are carrying out our work today and making future plans, keeping the competition in mind. On the one hand, competition means more problems, but on the other hand it permits us to work better. [end recording]

Procedure for Entrepreneurs' Registration Adopted

PM0808132691 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Aug 91 Union Edition p 1

[Unattributed report: "At the USSR Cabinet of Ministers: Temporary Procedure for Registration of Entrepreneurs"]

[Text] In accordance with Point 3 of the USSR Supreme Soviet Resolution "On Bringing Into Force the USSR Law 'On the General Principles of Entrepreneurship by Citizens in the USSR,'" the USSR Cabinet of Ministers has approved a temporary procedure for state registration of entrepreneurs conducting their activity without forming a corporate entity.

It states:

1. From now until the republics' adoption of legislation on the procedure for state registration of entrepreneurs conducting their activity without forming a corporate entity, such registration is to be carried out by the ispolkoms [executive committees] of rayon and city soviets and rayon soviets within cities, on the basis of the entrepreneur's domicile.

2. Citizens who have declared the desire to conduct entrepreneurial activity without forming a corporate entity are to submit a written application to the ispolkom of the relevant soviet, according to the form given in Appendix No. 1.

If the type of activity in question is subject to licensing, a license should be appended to the application.

3. The state registration of the entrepreneur should take place not later than 30 days from the submission of the application to the ispolkom of the relevant soviet.

4. Ispolkoms of rayon and city soviets and rayon soviets within cities carrying out the state registration of citizens as entrepreneurs conducting their activity without forming a corporate entity are to issue them with a certificate of state registration according to the form given in Appendix No. 2.

The certificate is valid over the entire territory of the USSR.

5. State registration takes place without payment of a fee.

6. The refusal of state registration of an entrepreneur on the grounds of inexpediency is not permitted.

The refusal of state registration of an entrepreneur may take place in cases where the form of activity in question is prohibited or where a license is compulsory for the pursuit of the form of activity in question but has not been obtained.

7. If the state registration of an entrepreneur does not take place within the stated time or is refused on grounds that the entrepreneur considers invalid, he may appeal to the courts.

Construction Industry Output Declines 21 Percent

LD1108125491 Moscow All-Union Radio First Program Radio-1 Network in Russian 1200 GMT 11 Aug 91

[Text] Today is Construction Workers' Day. It is being marked by 10 million people.

However, despite it being a festive day one needs to speak about problems. The affairs of the industry are in a bad way. In the first six months of the year, for instance, only three out of 330 installations of all-Union importance were handed over. The handover for use of housing was down by 21 percent, which means that dozens of thousands of families will not receive new apartments. Nor are any of the other performance indicators better. Perhaps a market economy will help the construction industry.

International Information Exchange Created

PM0908115891 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 Aug 91 Union Edition p 2

[Report by V. Reshetnikov: "Displayed for Auction... Information"]

[Text] A few days ago in Moscow 15 organizations signed a document on founding the International Information and Telecommunications Exchange.

At the document signing ceremony the founders declared that there is nothing of this kind in the world and there never has been. Press releases given out to journalists explain the need for setting up the International Information and Telecommunications Exchange as follows. As the market develops there will be a considerable increase in the volume of commercial information, which is already a standard commodity in its own right. However, the founders write, the USSR lacks a "reliable mechanism for ensuring interaction between information flows and analysis of their quality and reliability, the quotation of prices for information products, and the formation of an effective 'supply and demand' channel; and the lack of a systematic approach to choosing integrated technical resources for information transfer is considerably hampering the creation of an information market with all its inherent attributes." When translated into plain language this evidently means that things are not too brilliant with commercial information in our fatherland. The only lifeline in this situation, in the opinion of the authors of the document given out to journalists, is the International Information and Telecommunications Exchange, which "could solve the

problem of the systematization and centralization of information and devise and implement an organizational and technical concept for the collection, processing, transfer, and sale of information."

With the aid of the International Information and Telecommunications Exchange the founders plan to form a unified information structure in our country, hook it up to international information transfer channels, create a standard information market in the USSR, and finally protect the information holders' copyright.

The International Information and Telecommunications Exchange's main sources of profit were also announced. They are payment for the use of its telecommunications equipment, revenues from the sale of information from its own data banks, differentiated payment for the volume of information transferred via the exchange, and payment for advertising, consultancy, and marketing services.

Our information: The number of exchanges in the USSR is nearing 400...

Agriculture

Minister Chernoivanov Comments on Farm Problems

LD0508194191

[Editorial Report] Moscow Central Television Vostok Program and Orbita Networks in Russian, in its scheduled "Vremya" newscast at 1530 GMT on 5 August, carries a seven minute report on the agricultural situation. which begins with the announcer saying that the "Vremya" program has received three reports on farming affairs today, and today too our correspondent talked to Vyacheslav Ivanovich Chernoivanov, USSR Minister of Agriculture.

There follows a video report by Ye. Bruk from the (Gorskiy) state farm in the central Donbass, which has achieved an above-average harvest for the area.

Chernoivanov is then seen in his office talking to interviewer Valeriy Golubov, who says: "By today we have already threshed 39.1 million hectares, and about 21.3 quintals per hectare are going for threshing. Up to today swaths amount to just over 83 million tonnes and just over 20 million tonnes have been procured."

The next video report is from Barnaul, where L. Salnikov says mass harvesting of grain crops is about to start. The Altay has received 85,000 tonnes less gasoline in the first six months of this year than last, which is more than a month's normal use. The Altaynefteprodukt association is trying to make direct contracts with distillation works. Its director A.V. Shipulin says that with great difficulty they have managed to get an extra 33,000 tonnes of gasoline ordered in July, but Rosnefteprodukt is not fulfilling the order and it is now clear that 13,000-14,000 tonnes of this extra gasoline will not be supplied.

Chernoivanov then comments: "I must say that while the work is underway, a whole series of questions are being tackled that have not been completely solved. They include questions to do with complete, or nearly complete, provision of storage batteries. Questions of tires have not been fully solved yet. There are several other problems, not to mention the question of fuel, which I did not mention. Of course a lot of organizational work has to be done in the localities, and the most serious attention needs to be paid to this organizational work in the localities now."

The last video comes from Perm oblast, where M. Klepov reports on attempts by a local farm to do without outsiders: They succeeded in harvesting grain, but are using townspeople to harvest vegetables.

Chernoivanov comments: "So far agriculture does not have the essential machines and equipment to carry out harvesting of vegetables and potatoes. Not everything is there for other crops, and until this question is solved of course the active help of people—townspeople, students and all of us—will be needed to do the harvesting with the means we have.

Golubev then asks: "Viktor Ivanovich, my last question: The Ministry has not been working for long, but already the press and public are sometimes claiming that the Minister is not running the industry, and first and foremost as far as the low level of (?material) supplies is concerned."

Chernoivanov replies: " Well, first of all as far as the old accepted concept of running industries goes, of course that isn't the way we run things. The main task of the ministry is to organize a certain system of support, to set out normative documents, to set out documents to stimulate the development of agricultural production. Answering a question on supply problems, he says: "We consider that under the Ministry of Agriculture there should be set up, or reorganized, either a concern, or an organization or an association for material and technical supply." He concludes: "It is absolutely essential that there should be some third organization which will keep seeing to it that the material and technical resources are balanced in accordance with the productivity of agricultural output."

Stroyev Rebuts Talk of 'Winter of Hunger'

LD0708224791 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 1800 GMT 7 Aug 91

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] The press at present is full of forecasts about the state of the shelves of our food shops this winter. Well, it is understandable that where there is very severe drought there has to be a shortfall of many thousands of tonnes of grain from growers. In Moldavia, for instance, there has been a shortfall of almost a third of what was planned—about 500,000 tonnes. There are other problems too and a lack of people to gather in even what has been grown.

Deputies of the Tula oblast soviet, for instance, have even proposed that deliveries of agricultural produce be suspended to their negligent chiefs.

The way out of the crisis as seen by the CPSU leadership was spoken of at a news conference in Moscow today that was held by Stroyev, member of the Politburo and chairman of the Party's agrarian commission.

[Valeriy Golubev, commentator] Is it worthwhile organizing a news conference by the head of one of the largest departments of the CPSU connected directly with production, if the decree by Russia's President on the departization of production has been in operation for three days now? I think it is, if only because of the fact that the overwhelming majority of those working in agriculture are communists. In response to my question on where the borderline was between the CPSU's economic activity and its political activity Yegor Semenovich Stroyev said the following:

[Begin Stroyev recording from news conference] For both economic bodies and for us the working day begins with questions about how the harvesting is proceeding, how the procurement of bread-grain is proceeding and what is the situation regarding food supplies, including even the situation regarding the supplying of food to Moscow—our homeland's capital—Leningrad, Sverdlovsk, Chelyabinsk, Kemerovo and other cities, since this affects the interests of people—and once it affects the interests of people it constitutes politics.

[Golubev] It was probably for this reason that the central committee secretary, when he dwelt briefly on the agrarian section of the new CPSU draft programme—and incidentally it was a very critical analysis—devoted most of his address and his answers to journalists to current matters.

[Stroyev] At the present time the harvesting of crops is vigorously under way. In respect of the pace and the quality of the work these processes are proceeding better than last year. However, the gross grain harvest is expected to be below that of 1990. The harvest of sugar-beet, potatoes, vegetables and sunflower will be approximately at last year's level, and considerably higher, if the autumn is a normal one. So there are no grounds at the present time to speak about an allegedly coming winter of hunger. It is important that all that has been grown in the fields is harvested, processed and utilized in the most efficient way.

[Golubev] Indeed, over 42 percent of the grain crops have been gathered in to date, while the amount of bread-grain reaped is a little less than by this time last year. However, the purchases by the state food resources directorate are dropping week by week. Why are the peasants not wanting to part with their harvest and attempting to survive by returning to an economy of payment in kind?

[Stroyev] The delay in the agrarian sphere's economy in connection with the transition to market relations means it has been hit by economic instability and by price aggression on the part of other sectors and this has upset the parity of exchange between town and countryside. This is indeed the sorest point for agriculture. The countryside is for the third time in practice being hit in this way. There were the years of collectivization,when at the expense of the countryside we tackled a number of major economic problems, the restoration of the national economy after the Great Patriotic War, and now it seems that certain people are striving to carry through economic reform at the expense of the countryside. It needs to be stated forthrightly that, while the funds in the unrestricted accounts of industrial enterprises have to date almost doubled since 1st January, the same funds in agriculture have dropped 1.7-fold. This distortion needs to be resolved. [end recording]

[Golubev] Will the CPSU achieve these solutions? I will not venture on predictions, but it is obvious that its political role in society depends on these solutions. [Video shows Golubev speaking to camera while Stroyev is shown throughout speaking at the news conference]

Stavropol Kray Grain Harvesting Completed

PM0608144091 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Aug 91 Second Edition p 1

[By V. Pankratov: "Why the Gain Is Beyond Our Powers"]

[Text] Stavropol Kray—The rye fields look as if they were cast in bronze. The ripe ears bend under their own weight.

"We are taking 50 quintals of grain from each hectare," combine operator Aleksandr Veretennikov says.

I wonder why he does not sound delighted? It turns out that it is all quite simple. Last year the average yield from grain crops on the Chapayev Kolkhoz in Kochubeyevskiy Rayon was 62 quintals. This year it is much lower. Considerable damage was done to the crops by the extreme heat, followed by frequent torrential rain. All the same, that is not the main reason. The farm's chief agronomist V. Panchenko is convinced that the grain shortfall is directly connected with the chronic shortage of nitrogenous fertilizers. The shortfall was 850 tonnes.

"And so we are suffering losses," kolkhoz chairman M. Shikunov admits. "Under civil law, such situations are called loss of expected gain. It is not difficult to calculate it. Only the question is, against whom could we take proceedings? Such lawsuits are not practicable, it is extremely difficult to identify a culprit."

Mikhail Ivanovich is arguing from past experience. To be honest, his view is based on the poor legal protection of the grain farmer's interests. Now the picture is changing. The introduction of market relations demands the abandonment of old views and ideas. The skillful use

of legislation also regulates economic management relations. And if the yield per hectare is insufficiently high for subjective reasons, that should lead to certain legal consequences. It is absolutely justified to present a partner who fails to deliver the goods with an account for the failed harvest.

This year's harvest in Stavropol Kray offers plenty of grounds for such conclusions. In Novoaleksandrovskiy Rayon great damage was done to the winter wheat crops by chinch bugs. The agricultural aircraft which were supposed to carry out chemical spraying of the crops were inactive because there was no fuel for the planes.

"Yes, the lack of fuel did great damage to the harvest," says N. Tyutyunnikov, chief of the kray agro-industrial committee legal section. "This has all the signs of loss of gain which the grain farmers had a right to expect. But in practice it is impossible to protect them. There is no method of calculating such losses."

In Stavropol they have finished the grain harvest. The average yield in the kray is more than 30 quintals. The grain was well "scorched," particularly in the north-eastern zone. It was also affected by hailstorms and torrential rain, which squashed the plants to the ground. You can't argue with nature. But there is also damage due to the inadequacy of partnership ties. The kray's kolkhozes and sovkhozes failed to receive a large quantity of batteries for grain harvesting combines. The shortage of truck tires is acute. There are not enough carbides or electrodes.

According to preliminary calculations, the gross grain yield in the kray will be 5.2 million tonnes. At the field threshing floors they are processing that part of the crop that is to be delivered to the state. First and foremost the tax in kind must be met, that is 1.7 million tonnes. The RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Supreme Soviet and RSFSR Council of Ministers resolution stipulates severe sanctions for falling down on these deliveries. But that should also be the case in protecting the interests of kolkhozes, sovkhozes, and all the grain producers. But things are different for them.

Last year many farms in Stavropol Kray sold a considerable quantity of food grain to the "Stavropolkhleboproduct" Association in exchange for mixed feed. But that was a mistake. The association did not meet its commitments. When, at the height of the livestock wintering, the demand for forage was particularly high, the debtor stated: "The issuing of mixed feed is postponed to the second half of 1991. By order of the Russian Government." It turned out that compensation for losses was ruled out. Can you call that fair?

Tomsk Oblast Harvest Termed Big But 'Difficult'

PM0708144191 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 Aug 91 Union Edition p 1

[Report by correspondent A. Solovyev: "Appeals Do Not Work, Rely on Incentives"]

[Text] At the preharvest "send-off conference" V. Kress, chairman of Tomsk Oblast Council, urged the leaders of local organs of power to concentrate efforts on solutions to the food problem. He said that the field is "the best place for reconciling people of any political convictions whatever."

Reconciliation comes with difficulty. Political struggles in Tomsk do not go so far as "fisticuffs," but the constant office spats among deputies paralyze the executive officers' will and introduce edginess and confusion into work. Meanwhile, the oblast is producing less and less meat and milk, and fewer and fewer eggs. July returned hope of a recovery. The dry weather made it possible to procure more haylage and hay than last year. The possibility emerged of providing a better feed supply for both state and collective farm livestock units and private peasant farms.

However, the oblast soviet's attempts to attract machine operators and equipment to field work from industrial enterprises and organizations remain ineffective. Previously obedient "patrons" are in no hurry to "be attracted." Not one of the promised 115 machine operators drove from the plants into the meadows of suburban Tomskiy Rayon in July. The city is unwillingly—although there was such an agreement—divesting itself of means of transport. Vegetable plantations are overgrown with weeds—there is no one to weed them. A special "harvest" group has been set up at the oblast soviet executive committee to monitor the course of the harvest. Will it be able to unite and coordinate the interests of city folk and peasants? Will the oblast soviet chairman's telephone appeal damp down political passions in favor of harvest work? The field will answer...

Harvesting has begun in southern rayons. Specialists are forecasting a harvest of grain crops of 500,000 tonnes—100,000 tonnes more than last year. But a difficult harvest lies ahead: The grain crops are lodged, beaten down by hail. There are not enough spare parts for harvesting equipment and processing machines, not enough fuel and essential goods.

You will hardly bring in the harvest with conferences, special groups, and appeals. All this has been tried repeatedly before. A. Talovskiy, general director of the "Tomskkhleboprodukt" Association, is relying on incentives. The food tax on the oblast's surrender of grain to the state resources is not heavy—10 percent of the proposed yield, i.e. 50,000 tonnes. Purchases over and above the tax, Aleksandr Ivanovich reports, will be made at contract prices and be encouraged by countersales of equipment, material resources, and consumer goods at state wholesale and retail prices. For these same purposes the republic Council of Ministers has allocated to the oblast passenger cars, refrigerators, television sets, washing machines, sewing machines... It is proposed to pay peasants in freely convertible currency for up to 50 percent of the grain sold over and above the food tax.

Mindful of the harvest difficulties, the council of directors of grain-reception and processing enterprises has decided to accept—to count toward the food tax—grain of all crops with any moisture and weed content. The rest according to contracts. So long as there is grain. For it has to be bartered for mixed feed.

Vegetable growers are also reckoning on getting a good harvest—of potatoes, for example. They intend to sell the surplus to other parts of the country in exchange for fish, fruits, and sugar.

"Food deliveries to the oblast from outside are coming to an end," V. Kress warns. "Now we must rely only on our own resources, potential, and reserves." But they have still to be found.

Farmers' Reluctance To Hand Over Grain Noted

LD0908131191 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 1200 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Text] The chairman of the USSR State Committee for Purchasing Food Resources, Mikhail Timoshishin, has said this year's harvest will make it possible to provide the population with bread, but only if the grain is taken in without any losses and the farmers turn over to the government the set amount, which is approximately 77 million tonnes.

So far only a quarter of this amount has been handed over.

Mikhail Timoshishin expressed alarm over the fact that many regions are in no hurry to sell the grain to the government despite the number of privileges offered to the farmers. For grain sold over the above set amount they can get hard currency, machinery, and consumer goods.

Scientific

Nuclear Researcher on Defense Conversion Problems

PM1208145391 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 3 Aug 91 Evening Edition p 2

[Interview with Academician N.N. Ponomarev-Stepnoy, deputy director of the I.V. Kurchatov Atomic Energy Institute, by TASS correspondent R. Akhmetov in Moscow; date not given: "Conversion: The Struggle for Survival"]

[Text] Moscow—For many defense industry scientific institutes, conversion has brought trouble. A decrease in grants for military research is accompanied by the curtailment of laboratory work and a reduction in staff.

The I.V. Kurchatov Atomic Energy Institute, which made a large contribution to setting up the nuclear shield and reinforcing the motherland's defense capability, is in this very position. There are only a few such major scientific centers in the country. It is renowned as a scientific school, formed over many decades, and a powerful experimental base. Out of nine nuclear reactors operating in Moscow, seven are concentrated on its territory. There has never been any trouble with supplying the material and technical resources. The state budget contained a separate paragraph for the institute's finance.

With the reorientation of the scientific brief, the collective has found itself in a difficult situation. TASS correspondent R. Akhmetov talked to Academician N.N. Ponomarev-Stepnoy, deputy director of the institute, about the reasons for this and scientific workers' concerns.

[Akhmetov] Nikolay Nikolayevich, how do you evaluate the first steps of the conversion process?

[Ponomarev-Stepnoy] Well, just imagine for yourself: excellent. You know, conversion began in our country in approximately 1948. As soon as the reactor to produce plutonium for the atomic bomb was built, I.V. Kurchatov said to the scientists: "Now let's think about a peaceful power reactor." Incidentally, prior to this they had often considered the possiblity of using the results of military research for peaceful ends. So they were all in raptures over Igor Vasilyevich's idea. As a result in 1954 an atomic power station came into operation at Obninsk near Moscow and launched the development of atomic power generation on the planet. Next, atomic icebreakers emerged. For these we developed nuclear propulsion units similar to those installed in submarines.

This was intelligent conversion. Pushing defense research ever onward, scientists transferred ultra-efficient technology to the civilian sector. But today's idea of conversion is capable of bleeding our scientific potential dry.

[Akhmetov] What don't you like about today's version?

[Ponomarev-Stepnoy] It is an administrative-edict method of conducting conversion. It must be said that the switch to a peaceful agenda is an extremely complex process for any institute with a defense profile. The more so for our thousands-strong collective, which conducts a wide range of applied and basic research at the forefront of contemporary science.

Before embarking on conversion, solutions should have been found at government level to the questions of finance for civilian research, centralized provision of material and technical resources, and social protection for scientific workers against the negative effects of conversion. This has not been done. Conversion has started from above via a reduction in resources.

Not so long ago the amount of finance we received for defense projects was cut by one-third, which in fact, given the rate of inflation, became one-half. This was a fierce blow to the country's most hughly skilled cadres. For example, in the nuclear shipping installations department, which boasts several winners of prestigious prizes and Heroes of Socialist Labor, there are plans to

effect a 20 percent staff cut. In another subdivision, almost one in five specialists in nuclear space installations can expect to be laid off.

[Akhmetov] Could they have been kept in the institute?

[Ponomarev-Stepnoy] Of course, if we had a stabilization fund for science. This would help us to redirect workers and material facilities toward meeting the needs of the national economy.

After the Chernobyl accident resolutions were issued aimed at increasing safety at atomic power stations. They also recognized the need to start building new generation reactors. We began working on one project in conjunction with the Nizhniy Novgorod Machine Building Design Bureau. We decided to base the reactor on the principles of internal, passive safety using our rich experience in developing nuclear shipping installations. Its value lies in the fact that the reactor shuts itself down if the equipment's operating conditions are violated.

Unfortunately, limited finance means that cooperation with the Nizhniy Novgorod people is being conducted on a modest scale. As you know, even atomic energy is struggling. If there was a stabilization fund for science, we could use the money to increase the scale of such work by drawing in those specialists on nuclear shipping installations who are threatened with being laid off. The research agenda is closer to them. This for me is the best way of carrying out conversion. In other words, people who are highly qualified in the sphere of military scientific work must apply their skills in those areas of peaceful science related to their speciality. The USSR Academy of Sciences already has a fund for basic research. Understandably it is tightly closed to "alien" institutes.

[Akhmetov] How has conversion affected the institute's "order book?"

[Ponomarev-Stepnoy] I cannot conceal that it is severely depleted, although we do have tremendous possibilities. We are looking for money for concrete work. At first, the quest for orders was the concern of our elite—the leaders of major scientific areas. They managed to conclude a number of solid contracts. When their luck changed, the heads of departments and laboratories were drawn in.

We were forced to accept even the smallest order. Although such "deals" actually inflict greater losses on society than gains. Top-grade scientific forces are being frittered and people are losing any motivation for creative work.

[Akhmetov] How do you think one can get out of this difficult situation?

[Ponomarev-Stepnoy] We will conquer the market economy and learn about commerce and enterprise. But I stress—our efforts must be backed up by perceptible support from the state. Without this there is no way one can talk seriously about conversion.

[Akhmetov] Your institute was always covered in a veil of secrecy. What can you offer the market?

[Ponomarev-Stepnoy] First of all I will note that our civilian production is based on the achievements of military research and thus reflects essential innovation and high technical and economic indicators. For example, in sparsely populated regions of Siberia and the Far East we offer underground atomic electric power stations with a capacity of 100 kilowatts and a high safety level. It has no moving parts and operates autonomously with no need for maintenance personnel. Its prototype has been in use in our country for 10,000 hours and has not caused any alarm.

We will also enter the world market. But things are far from smooth and it is not all our fault. Last year we sold equipment for research into low-temperature plasma to American scientists. This knowledge is necessary for transforming thermal power into electricity. It was fully automatic and the results of this research are processed by personal computer. The institute received a mere 10 percent of the dollars earned from this. The rest of the money was "swallowed" by taxes and various payments. A ruinous tax policy does not encourage people to work for hard currency. In vain it is being said that one shouldn't kill the goose which lays the "golden" eggs.

[Akhmetov] Nikolay Nikolayevich, what is the situation in other institutes where conversion is underway?

[Ponomarev-Stepnoy] I can say nothing cheerful. We can expect a reduction in staff at the Obninsk Physics and Power Institute, at the Nizhniy Novgorod Machine Building Design Bureau....

Leningrad Designers Develop New Aircraft

OW1308004891 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1430 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Aircraft designers from Leningrad have developed unprecedented high-speed aircrafts. The aircrafts are developed in a special designers' office in the Leningrad military-industrial combination "Leninets".

"These aircrafts are of an absolutely new design which permits the speed of up to 12,000 kph and the flight altitude of 40 km,"- an "IF" [INTERFAX] correspondent is quoting the 62-year-old chief designer Vladimir Fraishtadt.

One of the types of the aircraft permits to take about 100 passengers aboard and bring them to any continent of the Earth with the sub-orbital speed. The other one with an additional equipment will be able to burn cosmic refuse on the near-earth orbit with laser rays.

Fraishtadt also said that both the problem of the supersonic system's refrigeration in flight and the problem of the use of thermal energy were settled.

The Leningrad engineer argues that the present most high-speed air-cosmic aircrafts—the American "shuttle", the Soviet "Buran", the future British "Hotl!e", the French "Hermes" are out-of-date in comparison with his aircraft, if it had been introduced into production, of course.

Practical flights of this engineer's systems can start only in 2 years, probably on the spacedrome "Kapustin Iar". More details on that sensational invention will be published in Leningrad paper "Rush-our" on August 12.

Airliner To Rescue Scientists in Antarctica

LD1208142291 Moscow TASS in English 1235 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Moscow August 12 TASS—An airliner flew today to Antarctica to pick up crew and scientists from a Soviet research ship trapped in heavy ice there at the end of a more-than-15-month mission. Ilyushin-76 commander Test-Pilot S. Bliznyuk and A. Chilingarov, president of the polar explorers' association who heads the rescue effort, have a carefully-considered plan to evacuate 169 participants in the expedition on board the Somov.

They will have to act in the hostile environment of gale-force winds, frost and polar night, but another research ship, the Professor Vize, is standing by in the area to help if need be. Back-up airfields were also prepared to receive the plane.

By agreement with South African authorities, the aircraft will make a stopover in that country.

Military

Official Denies Threat of Military Coup

AU1308082191 Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 12 Aug 91 p 5

[Interview with Colonel General Gennadiy Stefanovskiy, deputy chief of the Military Political Main Administration of the USSR Armed Forces, by IAN correspondent Vladimir Gavrikov; place and date not given: "Our Army Does Not Serve a Dictator"]

[Text] [Gavrikov] Do you think the domestic policy situation provides reasons for such fears [of a military coup in the USSR]?

[Stefanovskiy] I think it is possible that some domestic policy problems might be solved by force; but whoever assumes that our soldiers and the officers' corps are ready to stage a coup and to serve a dictator completely misunderstands their attitude. A military coup would deprive the country of the historic opportunity for renewal. Some people are obviously worried because they have been indoctrinated with an enemy image of the Armed Forces. For others a military coup seems to be unavoidable and, I would even say, desirable because they see it as their last chance to preserve their privileges and their power or, on the contrary, to blame the failure of their political adventures on the Army.

[Gavrikov] A reason for the fears was perhaps also the repeated harsh criticism by some military officers in the Supreme Soviet of the president's domestic and foreign policy. Why has the Defense Ministry not commented on such statements?

[Stefanovskiy] Critical statements are part of everyday life in parliament. Many military officers among the deputies were elected not just by the Army members. They express the interests and moods of the voters from various strata of the society.

For us, Mikhail Gorbachev is not an icon, not a politician without any fault; and in our view the political course of the country's leadership is not without defect. For instance, not all military members accept the speedy steps of rapprochement with the West, the unilateral concessions in disarmament, and the hasty return of the troops to our country. We would like the state leadership to care more for the social and everyday concerns of the soldiers and for the prestige of military service. In my view, this is also expressed in the sometimes very emotional speeches of military deputies; however, their service does not permit them—even if they wanted to do so—to instigate the Army or part of it to a "military coup."

[Gavrikov] Today many people are convinced that the Army is the sole guarantor of stability in the Soviet Union. There is, however, also the widespread view that including the military in solving the nation's problems only intensifies separatist trends and escalates the political situation in the country. Who is right?

[Stefanovskiy] Of course, the Army is an important institution, but it is by far not the only one that supports the stability of our state. Let us not forget the Supreme Soviet and the president. Separating them and the Armed Forces means confronting them with each other and playing into the hands of the "enthusiasts" of a military dictatorship. I am convinced that the Army is counteracting the "centrifugal force" and subdues extremism and political adventurism not so much by force but does so much more with calmness and self-restraint.

Rutskoy Expulsion From CPSU Cited

PM1208151591 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 9 Aug 91 First Edition p 4

[Report by ROSTASS correspondent N. Kupriy: "Expelled From CPSU.... Primary Party Organization's Decision in Respect of Colonel Rutskoy"]

[Text] There is one communist fewer in the primary party organization of the Military-Political Directorate of the Air Force. Instead of 50 people there are now 49 on the party's books.

"The Communist A.V. Rutskoy has been expelled from the CPSU for activities contrary to the CPSU Rules and designed to split the party, and for losing contact with the primary party organization's work." Such was the decision of the party meeting which took place Wednesday [7 August] evening. And although the agenda stipulated only one question—on the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Communist Party Central Committee plenum's decision to expel A.V. Rutskoy from the party—the meeting was a lengthy one.

Air Force Major General A.F. Odnolko, secretary of the party organization, reported to those assembled that Aleksandr Vladimirovich requested that he be registered because he "is not intending to leave the party, believes in the ideals of communism, and his father and grandfather were Communists."

However, the secretary pointed out, Rutskoy has not paid his dues for seven months, nor has he attended party meetings. It is practically impossible to get through to him on the telephone. He recalled an occasion when he tried to get in contact with him for two weeks but all his efforts were to no avail.

While confirming what the party secretary had said, A.V. Rutskoy repeated more than once that he had not attended the party meetings due the great volume of work he had, but that he had requested to be given their dates two days in advance. And he had decided to get onto the books of this party organization in particular because, in his opinion, "it is difficult to find party structures whose actions are in line with the ideas of the 28th CPSU Congress and 19th Party Conference."

After next calling the RSFSR Communist Party a "mongrel," "puppet" party, he said that he had never joined it and does not recognize it. Rutskoy considers that it was formed in an unconstitutional and illegal manner. And the Central Committee's decision was adopted in violation of its rules. Only the primary party organization can expel someone from the party.

"I do not recognize this party also for the reason that perestroyka has been sunk because of its leading organs in the krays, oblasts, and rayons... This is the reason why the law on departyization came out...." Yes, he was a member of this party's Central Committee. But, he did refuse to be involved in the work Polozkov offered him as he was snowed under with his own. He did not attend the last plenum—he simply sent in a petition on giving up the powers vested in him.

The RSFSR vice president maintained that the actions he took to form the Democratic Party of Communists of Russia were within his rights. The idea to organize it came about as a result of traveling about the republic. Proposals to create a civil accord had appeared. Of course, it was not those bearded, long-haired "democrats" who cry "Put the communists up against the wall!" who suggested this. Rutskoy considers that in general terms the discussion was about creating a normal democratic party. Neither its program nor its rules are in conflict with the CPSU.

Discussing the actions of their party comrade, Communists expressed the following ideas, among others.

Colonel V.V. Kirsanov: "A party is being formed within the party with one purpose in mind—that of destroying the CPSU."

Air Force Lieutenant General G.M. Benov, member of the Military Council and chief of the Political Directorate of the Air Forces: "Rutskoy's reference to those mistakes made in the party's history are speculation on his part with his own ideological convictions. As a member of the Central Committee of the RSFSR Communist Party he should have carried through his ideas within the party, fought for them, and not set up something else. A Communist has not got the right to dissociate himself from the social gains of the working people. As a member of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet I make the observation that among the documents bearing Rutskoy's signature there are those which are impoverishing the people. For example, as a result of the law on land, land has become an object of speculation."

When one of the speakers pointed out to Aleksandr Vladimirovich that he was a "plaything in the hands of foreigners," A.V. Rutskoy reminded us that he is the vice president and that we should chose our words carefully with respect to him. Incidentally, RSFSR Vice President Rutskoy's bodyguard attended the meeting. It was noted in this connection that it is now necessary to guard a colonel from former comrades in arms with whom Aleksandr Vladimirovich flew the same skies and studied together at school.

The meeting resolved: to expel Rutskoy. Promising "yet to do much," A.V. Rutskoy did not relinquish his party card....

Yazov, Shlyaga Anniversary Message to Guards

91UM0820A Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 6 Aug 91 First Edition p 1

["Appeal to Participants in the Great Patriotic War—Veterans of the Guard and Guard Members of the USSR Armed Forces" from Marshal of the Soviet Union D. Yazov, USSR minister of defense, and Colonel General N. Shlyaga, chief of the Main Military Political Administration of the USSR Armed Forces]

[Text] Fellow fighting men, Comrades!

On 18 September 1991 the Soviet Guard will be 50 years old. It was born during the most difficult period of the Great Patriotic War in the Battle of Smolensk near Yelnya. Hitler's troops, having gained great superiority in manpower and technical equipment, were forced to retreat for the first time under crushing attacks from our units. In the Yelnya operation the 100th, 137th, 153d,

and 161st rifle divisions especially distinguished themselves. In bitter combat they provided examples of courage and bravery. These divisions were the first to be transformed into guard divisions.

The Soviet Guard matured and was tempered in battle. Large and small units of all branches of the Armed Forces and services earned the high honor of being called guards. By the end of the war 17 general troop and tank armies, dozens of rifle, cavalry, tank, mechanized, and aircraft units, and hundreds of divisions, brigades, regiments, and ships fought under guard banners.

Even today there are gray-headed old front line veterans in the combat formation. They participate actively in the patriotic education of youth and tell people the truth about the war, the endless devotion of guardsmen to their Homeland, and their faithfulness to their military duty. Their active position in life contributes to the consolidation of the healthy forces of society and the stabilization of the situation in the country. On the eve of their glorious anniversary, we express to the veterans words of sincere gratitude and recognition and we wish them good health, happiness, and prosperity.

The glory of the frontline troops is now being multiplied by the hard work of their sons. Guard units, ships, and detachments are successfully carrying out their combat training tasks and providing an example for the personnel of the Army and Navy.

Guardsmen! You are the heirs of those who earned this honored title through their courage and combat mastery. Carry with honor the baton of honorable service to the Homeland, protect the glorious traditions of the military brotherhood, steadily improve combat training, and strengthen discipline and organization. Persistently master the equipment and arms assigned to you and temper yourselves physically. Always and in everything be a good example of hard work.

Maintain and strengthen your ties with veterans of your units and ships and help them in word and deed. Take a respectful attitude toward the memorials to Soviet fighting men who have died in combat. Remember that they were performing their duty as soldiers without thinking about glory or honor. Do everything possible to make sure that are no unknown soldiers or unmarked graves.

Multiply the glorious combat traditions of the Soviet Guard, of your units and detachments, and increase the respect for our Armed Forces.

The feats of Guardsmen during the years of the Great Patriotic War provide a sparkling example of true service to the Homeland. In addressing you, friends in combat, we express our firm conviction that the Guard traditions will be for each and every one of us a reliable stimulus to live and work for the good of our Homeland.

[Signed] Marshal of the Soviet Union D. Yazov, USSR minister of defense.

Colonel General N. Shlyaga, chief of the Main Military Political Administration of the USSR Armed Forces.

Destruction Plans for Chemical Arms Store Reported

LD1208195291 Moscow All-Union Radio First Program Radio-1 Network in Russian 1200 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Our correspondent Feliks Tyumakov reports from Izhevsk.

[Tyumakov] Specialists from the Directorate of Chemical Troops and the Planning Institute of the Ministry of Defense have elaborated the first technical variant for the elimination of the regional storage center for combat poisonous substances. Let us recall that 6,000 tonnes of lewisite from the World War II, is stored in the vicinity of the Udmurt town of Kambarka. According to Soviet-American agreements this should be destroyed. Military specialists propose that a terminal be built on the banks of this major river in the Urals area for the Kambarka lewisite to be moved by transport containers. Housing and public social facilities should also be constructed here, with all means of communication. Matters now rest with the Republic's inhabitants who are to discuss the final version of the draft.

Estonia

Republic Not To Take Part in 16 Aug Meeting

OW1208120491 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1030 GMT Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] In an interview with the Estonian radio Ulo Nugis, head of the Estonian delegation for talks with the USSR and Speaker for the Estonian Parliament, said that the Estonian delegation will not take part in the next round of consultations between Estonia and the USSR on August 16. Mr. Nugis said the reason for such decision is that the Soviet Union refuses to put on the agenda political issues linked with historical and legal aspects of relations between Estonia and the USSR.

Mr. Nugis said that head of the Soviet delegation for talks with Estonia Nikolai Laverov offered the Estonian side to meet in Moscow August 9 to complete the discussion of economic issues and to sign necessary documents.

Mr. Nugis noted that the Estonian delegation had rejected the offer because it would like to discuss both political and economic questions.

Mr. Nugis believes the top priority for Estonia in its relations with the USSR is not the signing of economic agreements, but the gaining of full independence.

Mr. Nugis said that Estonia has not yet received a response from Moscow to its proposal to include political issues in the agenda of the upcoming meeting, so that the question of holding the next meeting remains open, Mr. Nugis pointed out.

Republic, Soviet Premiers To Meet 12 Aug

OW1208113691 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1030 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] As BF [BALTFAX] learned from the Estonian Permanent Representation in Moscow, Estonian Prime Minister Edgar Savisaar has arrived in Moscow to meet with USSR Prime Minister Valentin Pavlov.

The meeting is scheduled for August 12 afternoon.

Edgar Savisaar is also expected to meet with former USSR foreign minister and Chairman of the Soviet Association of Foreign Policy Eduard Shevardnadze.

12 Aug Meeting With Pavlov Delayed

OW1208204091 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1600 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] As BF's [BALTFAX] reporter has learned at Estonia's permanent mission in Moscow, E. Savisaar's meeting with the USSR Premier V. Pavlov, scheduled for Monday afternoon, has not yet begun. The Soviet prime minister is attending a session of the USSR Cabinet of Minister's Presidium which is expected to be over late at night today.

Popular Front, Democratic Russia Groups Meet

OW1008214691 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1630 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] A delegation of the Estonian Popular Front led by Estonian Prime Minister Edgar Savisaar and Deputy Speaker for the Estonian Parliament Marju Lauristin met with a delegation of the "Democratic Russia" Movement's Coordinating Council headed by Co-Chairmen of the Movement Yuriy Afanasyev and Arkadiy Murashev on Saturday in Tallinn. The delegations discussed the political and economic situations in Estonia and the Russian Federation, as well as prospects for the future of the Union after August 20.

The two sides also touched upon the rights of national minorities—Russians in Estonia and Estonians in Russia.

Yuriy Afanasyev pointed out the lack of logic in the situation when "a number of sovereign states get united in yet another sovereign state".

The two delegtions have signed a communique "On the meeting between representatives of the 'Democratic Russia' Movement and the Estonian Popular Front."

The next meeting is scheduled for September in the Russian Federation.

People's Front Head on Similarities

LD1208163591 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 1700 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Excerpts] A delegation of the coordinating council of the Democratic Russia movement arrived this morning in Tallinn. Today the visitors had a meeting with the leadership of the Estonian People's Front. After the meeting a news conference took place on Toompea. Ain Saarna will report on this in more detail.

[Saarna] [passage omitted] The leaders of Democratic Russia viewed today's meetings with the leaders of the Estonian People's Front as a logical continuation of long-term processes. Here is the Estonian side's view of today's meetings: Ignar Fjuk, chairman of the People's Front.

[Begin Fjuk recording] Today's meetings highlighted again the similarities between the aims of the Estonian People's Front and other freedom-seeking Estonian forces and the aims of the Democratic Russia movement: that is, general democratization and fighting for freedom have become the prime aims of the democratic forces in Russia. They do not see it as a possibility that their Russia could have two

constitutions hanging over it, with a triple nationality and two presidents. So that the issues which we have been aware of for decades are about to become serious as far as they are concerned, too. On the other hand, there is recognition that the role of the People's Front in the present Estonian development has not by any means been exhausted. There is no other adequate structure in existence in Estonia which could build contacts—while being acceptable [word indistinct] to them—with democratic forces of Russia, the Ukraine or other freedom-seeking republics, so that we must simply change ourselves in the changing times and conditions. [end recording]

More on Democratic Russia Visit

LD1308082291 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1900 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] The leadership of the Estonian People's Front has negotiated with the coordination council delegation of the Democratic Russia movement headed by the leaders Yuriy Afanasyev and Arkadiy Murashev. Afanasyev said that Democratic Russia took a negative view on the new Union treaty because it sees two dangers:

First is that the geo-political pressure is transferred to Asia; because the Ukraine has not yet made up its mind, it may happen that the Union with all the Asian republics will consist of two Slavonic republics—Russia and Belorussia.

The second danger is that nobody from the Russian Parliament and Yeltsin's co-workers have seen the text of the treaty. The new Union is being set up in the corridors of power secretly and too quickly. At the same time many internal problems of Russia remain unsolved.

According to Afanasyev, the Novo-Ogarevo process is a compromise that contains many positive sides indeed; however, it is a compromise reached at the expense of the republics because the Union treaty will be signed on Gorbachev's conditions.

Minister Leimann on Economic Pact With Soviets

OW1308045791 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1900 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Estonia's Minister of the Economy, Jaak Leimann, has told BF [BALTFAX] that his republic "firmly intends to sign an economic agreement with the USSR for 1992." He said the Estonian Government would be seeking a treaty on produce supplies as well as fuel, lubricants, etc.

At the same time, J. Leimann said he did not see a need for the Estonian Government to take part in drafting a program for the improvement of the USSR's financial position. "Our ½ percent (of the Soviet Union's population living in Estonia—BF) cannot decide anything in that area," he said.

Two weeks ago an enlarged session of the USSR Cabinet of Ministers instructed the republics to submit, over the next 10 days, their suggestions on how to pull the USSR out of its financial crisis.

J. Leimann stressed Estonia's readiness to transfer money to both the national budget and the budgets of various republics to support specific projects on the basis of appropriate treaties.

Supreme Council To Open Session 12 Aug

OW1208203891 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1330 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Estonian Supreme Council is to open its regular session in Tallinn on August 12 at 4 p.m.

According to the Estonian radio, during the first day of the session deputies will discuss the republic's budget, income taxation system, foreign investment, etc.

Parliament Does Not Discuss Premier's Resignation

OW1308010191 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1600 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] BF's [BALTFAX] Tallinn correspondent reports that the agenda of the Estonian Parliament's session, which began on Monday, does not include the question of Premier Edgar Savisaar's resignation. MPs will discuss the republic's budget, the legal basis of police performance, taxation, and a number of other issues.

Parliamentarians have rejected the government's suggestion that the Supreme Council open debates over Estonia's draft budget for next year on December 1 instead of October 1, since it is "senseless to draft a budget before the new Union treaty is signed or before the prices are set to be used in financial relations with the 'secessionist' republics." The Estonian Parliament rejected these arguments as insufficiently grounded.

Cities' Communists Approve Self-Governing Status

OW1308023391 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1330 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] A joint plenary meeting of the Estonian Communist Party (on the CPSU platform) committees of the three cities in the north-eastern region of Estonia—Narva, Kohtla-Yarve and Sillamae—has approved the conception of a special status for the republic's north-eastern region envisaging its self-government. The plenary meeting took place in Sillamae on Saturday.

Speaking at the meeting, the Secretary of the Estonian Communist Party Nikolay Zakharov described the situation in the region as "unstable".

Participants in the plenary meeting agreed that the only way out of this situation is granting a special status to the region. Thus the plenary meeting supported the decisions of the city councils of Narva, Kohtla-Yarve and Sillamae to grant a special status to the region.

Republics To Hold Molotov-Ribbentrop Conference

OW1208222191 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1900 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Estonian radio has reported that the Supreme Councils of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania will co-sponsor an international conference timed for the 52nd anniversary of the Molotov-Ribbentrop pact.

The conference will open in Tallinn on August 21, continue in Riga on August 22, and finish in Vilnius on August 23. Representatives of the three republics will discuss, among other things, ways of attaining state independence.

Republic Police Release Latest Crime Figures

OW1008012091 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1900 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] According to the Estonian Police Department, over the past 7 months as many as 16,587 crimes, including traffic accidents, have been registered in the republic. Among them 61 premeditated murders, 90 cases of inflicting severe wounds, 30 rapes, over 3,000 thefts of state property, 139 assaults and 720 robberies

Over the same period last year 12,276 crimes had been registered.

Eleven Republic Police Cadets 'Criminals'

OW1008024991 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1600 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] According to the newspaper PAEVALEHT, 11 cadets of a special police school in Estonia have had a criminal past. A thorough study of their biographies revealed that all of them had faced criminal charges, and two were wanted by the police: one since July 1990, the other since July 1991. On August 8 both were arrested.

All the 11 cadets have been expelled from the Remniku training center of the Borderguard Department where they had been taking courses of special training in preparation for the armed defense of the republic's economic border and the fulfillment of various "quick response" tasks. By decision of the Estonian Government, the special police force is to be sent into action on October 1 this year.

Latvia

Republic Parliament Discusses Annual Report

OW1008012291 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1600 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Supreme Council of Latvia has changed its timetable in order to scrutinize the annual report of the republic's government.

BF's [BALTFAX] correspondent quotes the government report as saying that the economic situation in Latvia is still difficult, with production rates declining in almost all industries. At the same time, the industrial and agricultural output in the republic has slumped less drastically than the nation's average.

In the first half of the year Latvia exported a 3.4 billion rubles' worth of goods, and imported goods worth 8.5 billion.

Amendments to Republic Penal Code Discussed

OW1208204191 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1900 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Parliament in Latvia has opened debates over amendments to the republican Penal Code. According to Riga radio, "efforts to forcibly depose the state system in the Latvian Republic" may be punishable by imprisonment for 1-15 years under the new bill. Execution will be abolished, and the strictest punishment will be 15 years in prison.

The bill envisages various terms of imprisonment for espionage, sabotage, subversion and calls for the overthrow of the existing system "on instruction from organizations in foreign countries."

PRC Consul General To Visit Riga 11-12 Aug

OW0908163191 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1415 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Following item transmitted via KYODO]

[TEXT] The new Chinese Consul General in Leningrad, Wang Fenxiang, is to visit Riga on August 11 and 12. The information comes from the Latvian Foreign Ministry.

USSR Grants Aid To Repair Riga TV Tower

LD0908211491 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 1300 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Text] The USSR Ministry of Defense has reportedly granted R1 million to the armed forces sub-unit No. 73-636, stationed in Riga, to repair Lithuania's television tower. Construction materials, chandeliers, linoleum, switches, sockets, and other articles are being transported from Riga to Vilnius.

New Independent Radio Station Opens in Riga

LD1108105091 Moscow All-Union Radio First Program Radio-1 Network in Russian 0900 GMT 11 Aug 91

[Text] An independent commercial radio station has begun operating in Riga. It broadcasts for up to 18 hours daily. Of this 80 percent is music, 10 percent is news, and 10 percent is advertising. Its programs are broadcast in Latvian and Russian.

Janis Leja, president of the new radio station and a former chairman of the Latvian Soviet Socialist Republic's committee for television and radio broadcasting, emphasized in an interview with journalists the neutral character of the radio station.

Soviet Scholarships 'Abolished' in Republic

OW1208203791 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1900 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Government of Latvia has abolished the payment to higher school students on Latvia territory of Soviet scholarships instituted in memory of various politicians, scientists and cultural personalities of the Soviet period.

Lithuania

Landsbergis Stresses Not Signing Union Treaty

LD1208175191 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 1500 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Touching on the opening of the signing of the new Union treaty, which is planned for 20 August, Landsbergis, head of [Lithuanian] Parliament, who was speaking late Sunday night on independent Lithuanian television, let it be known that efforts directed toward Lithuania signing this document were senseless. He based his arguments for this position on the fact that after such a vote for independence—as on the day of the referendum of the republic's population—no other signature would hold authority. I remind you that on that day, more than 70 percent of the republic's inhabitants came out in favor of Lithuania's democratic independence.

Among other things, the head of the Parliament named the upcoming introduction of passports for citizens of the Lithuanian Republic as an important measure for strengthening Lithuania's statehood. It is planned that the replacement of passports in major towns of Lithuania will begin in October this year.

Report on Witnesses to Medininkai Killings

PM1208160191 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 10 Aug 91 p 1

[V. Zarovskiy report: "The Killings at the Lithuanian Customs Post: Fewer and Fewer Versions"]

[Text] The following axiom has been confirmed: There are no crimes without witnesses. We can breathe a sigh of relief inasmuch as the investigation is nearing completion. My interlocutor is A. Astashka, chief investigator of the group for the investigation of crimes against the person:

[Astashka] The situation Friday [9 August] is as follows: We have witnesses who saw the killers. The fact that it is the Russian-speaking population, so to speak, that is assisting us is gratifying.

[Zarovskiy] Did they see the actual moment of the crime?

[Astashka] They saw the criminals in the trailer, and thus they eliminated many versions.

[Zarovskiy] Did the witnesses describe their appearance?

[Astashka] I cannot say yet.

[Zarovskiy] But would they be able to identify them?

[Astashka] It is only in the movies that things are so easy. This is an agonizing and difficult process. It is possible that we will be able to compose a general portrait on the basis of all the evidence. Obviously more witnesses will turn up.

[Zarovskiy] How many of them are there?

[Astashka] More than one.

[Zarovskiy] You said that many versions have been eliminated. What remains?

[Astashka] Making this public may lead to premature conclusions being drawn. [Astashka ends]

And meanwhile the OMON [special-purpose militia detachment] barracks have begun to be picketed by Lithuanian inhabitants. Representatives of the Sajudis Seimas Council met with the commander of the Vilnius OMON and assured him that there would be no provocations on their part. In turn, the major replied that there would be none on their part either. Consensus.

More on 8 Aug Pro-OMON Rally Held in Vilnius

PM1208135191 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Aug 91 Second Edition p 3

[Correspondent Yu. Stroganov report: "At the OMON Base"]

[Text] Vilnius—A rally took place near the Vilnius OMON [Special-Purpose Military Detachment] base yesterday evening in support of this group. People packed the approaches to the building and spoke indignantly about unprecedented pressure from certain political forces in the republic on this USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs subdivision, and about the groundless accusations against it regarding a mysterious crime in Medininkai where six officials from the militia and the territorial defense department were killed by unknown persons at a customs station: two people were badly wounded, and one of them died shortly after.

As we know, Sajudis has called upon Lithuania's inhabitants to set about destroying the "tent city" around the OMON base in the three days beginning 9 August. Participants in this action will be opposing the OMON and demanding its withdrawal from Lithuania.

Banners at the current rally have a different content: "OMON, You Are Our Protection;" "Friends, We Are With You;" "Boleslav, Be Strong" (Boleslav Makutynovich, commander of the Vilnius OMON); appeals for the USSR Internal Affairs minister to defend the division; and so on. The Union of Soviet Journalists in Lithuania—this is a new organization—has published a philanthropic journal entitled NASHI [OURS], telling of support for the OMON from part of the Lithuanian population; all proceeds will go into a fund to help the division. Although the pamphlet costs 3 rubles [R], many people have given more. Before my very eyes one elderly man paid R100 for it.

Official Says USSR Training 'Terrorist Groups'

LD1208210791 Stockholm Sveriges Radio Network in Swedish 2000 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] [Announcer] The Soviet Union is organizing special plainclothes groups for acts of political terror in the Baltic. But it is still unclear who is responsible for the recent cold-blooded murder of seven Lithuanian police officers and border guards. This was stated by Audrius Butkevicius, director general of the Lithuanian Department for Defense of the Land, who arrived in Stockholm for a brief visit today.

[reporter Christer Larsson] Audrius Butkevicius said that the Soviet Union understands that it cannot alter the situation in the Baltic through open military force. That is why they are now organizing political state terrorism, and those responsible for this are to be found in the leadership of the special units of the Interior Ministry troops in Riga, the black berets. It is these special troops that many suspect of being behind the cold-blooded executions of seven Lithuanian border guards and police officers on 31 July. Each of them was forced to lie down on the ground and shot in the back of the head, a special feature of the special forces' training. But we still lack evidence of who organized and carried out the murders, the Lithuanian military leader said. However we have evidence that it is the Interior Ministry troops who are right now training and organizing reserve officers and former Spetsnaz soldiers for the new terrorist groups which are to operate secretly in civilian society in the classic terrorist manner, in order to make it increasingly difficult to point to the Soviet state leadership as the initiator of violence and executions, Audrius Butkevicius said.

[Announcer] Butkevicius was not able to meet the Swedish Government during his visit. But he took part in the so-called Monday meeting of support for the Baltic at the Norrmalmstorg [square] in Stockholm.

Democratic Russia Urges Removal of OMON

LD1208221191 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 2030 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] An appeal to Pugo, USSR interior minister, was adopted at a sitting of the coordination council of the Democratic Russia movement today. It demands that OMON [Special Purpose Militia Detachment] troops on the territory of the Baltic states should be immediately disbanded because their actions threaten the rights and freedoms of the republics' citizens. Our correspondent Yelena Kuznetsova asked militia Captain Yuriy Luchinskiy, Russian people's deputy and member of the Democratic Russia movement, to express his opinion regarding this appeal.

[Begin Luchinskiy recording] I would like to put it more precisely. I think that the way the Lithuanian leadership formulated it was far better—the demand to withdraw special purpose militia troops attached to the USSR MVD [Ministry of Internal Affairs] from the territory of this particular republic, because if one were to get rid of this organization, one of course, should not leave its dispersed and disbanded residue. In this republic, I mean Lithuania, they have their own militia which has normal relations with its local population. Its activities are suitably received by the same local population. And the main thing is that this republic is not asking central authorities to render any assistance in the field of enforcing its public order. They have enough of their own forces and the population has enough awareness for this to be achieved. So what is the reason for sending there these mobile and very strong armed MVD troop formations called OMON? This really speaks for the fact that OMON was born as a, not to put it too crudely, as a bandit, but rather as a partisan body. But, naturally, one should only appeal to the highest official leadership for this organization to be withdrawn from the republic. [end recording]

Communist Party Leaders' Homes To Be Searched

LD1308083791 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 0800 GMT 13 Aug 91

[Text] Law enforcement bodies of Lithuania have decided to search the apartments of Communist Party leaders. This is said in a statement given to the media by its Secretariat.

This provocative act is to be carried out on alleged grounds of seeking evidence following the January events, when, during a fire exchange in the streets, there were casualties among the civilian population, but in reality the provocation is aimed at further aggravating tensions and confrontation, says a statement, to compromise the Communist Party of Lithuania, its leaders and rank and file members.

Republic Objects to Power Engineering Decision

LD1308045391 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1600 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] In compliance with the order of 11 July 1991 issued by the USSR Ministry of Power Engineering and Electrification and the USSR Ministry of Nuclear Power Engineering and Industry concerning centralized accounts by nuclear power stations in the future, the power engineered at the Ignalina Nuclear Electric Power Station will be exempt from the balance of the Lithuanian power engineering system and transfered to the USSR Ministry of Nuclear Power Engineering and Industry Main Administration No. 27.

This order was sent to the Ministry of Power Engineering of the Republic of Lithuania, and was then sent on to the government of the Republic of Lithuania.

Deputy Prime Minister Vytautas Pakalniskis sent a letter to the leaders of the above ministries in which it is indicated that the order concerning centralized accounts by the nuclear power stations was issued despite the objections of the Ministry of Power Engineering of the Republic of Lithuania. The order has not been coordinated with government of the Republic of Lithuania.

It is pointed out in the letter that such an order is the start of destruction of the systems of power engineering. This compels us to doubt the promises made by the leaders of the ministries of the Soviet Union to continue cooperation in the sphere of power engineering.

At the end of the letter, it is stressed that if Lithuania is compelled to take retaliatory measures, then all the responsibility for possible consequences will fall on the USSR Ministry of Power Engineering and Electrification and the USSR Ministry of Nuclear Power Engineering and Industry.

'Unidentified Individuals' Cut Power Lines

LD0908215391 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1800 GMT 09 Aug 91

[Text] On 8 August 1991 at 2310 [2010 GMT] an unidentified individual pried open the door to the Zverynas Electric Substation and using professional expertise disconnected all of the lines serving the Zverynas area consumers housed there.

An operative brigade of the Civilian Electric Network Dispatcher Service went to the site of the incident and restered the substation's operation in 20 to 30 minutes.

On 9 August at 0100 some unidentified individuals disconnected two 10 kilowatt electric lines in Karoliniskes. However, the operative brigade again repaired them quickly.

Reports of Tanks in Pabrade, Radviliskis

LD0908213191 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1300 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Text] The Sajudis Information Agency reports that today, at 1530 [1230 GMT], 21 light tanks and five or six heavy tanks arrived in Pabrade. One of the tanks needed repairs and was towed to [placename indistinct].

It is reported from Radviliskis that tanks are also standing in Aukstis woods [words indistinct] along with (a helicopter and soldiers).

Officials Discuss Defense, Customs Issues

LD1008104191 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 2000 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Text] Republic of Lithuania Deputy Prime Minister Zigmas Vaisvila has met with land defense and customs officials. Problems of republic security, its border security, and customs work were discussed during the meeting, including proposals by land defense and customs officials concerning ways and means of solving these problems.

Regulations have been adopted concerning the imposition of stricter border control measures and the strengthening of border control at the most vital border posts. Also, a resolution was adopted concerning the establishment of an Arms Fund for Lithuania.

Yedinstvo Leader Urges Death Penalty for Enemy

LD1208142391 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1100 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Speaking to the RUSSIAN INFORMATION AGENCY, (Viktor Prishchipenko), member of the political executive committee of the USSR organization Unity for Leninism and Communist Ideals, Yedinstvo, declared: We are striving to restore the real socialism, which existed in 1940-1950, in the Soviet Union. We support total annihilation of bourgeois liberalism and cosmopolitanism. [passage omitted on Marxist Platform Conference in Moscow]

Among the agents employed by the foreign intelligence services seeking to destroy the united socialist (?state), (Prishchipenko) mentioned to the RUSSIAN INFORMATION AGENCY [Lithuania's] Vytautas Landsbergis and [Georgia's] Zviad Gamsakhurdia, and urged that they, as enemies of the state, be given the death penalty.

Council Reports Ter-Petrosyan's Planned Visit

LD1208114191 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1100 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] The Republic of Lithuania's Supreme Council reports that Armenian Supreme Soviet Chairman Levon Ter-Petrosyan will arrive in Vilnius on an official visit on 14 August. Official negotiations between the Armenian and Lithuanian delegations will take place on the same day in Vilnius. It is hoped to sign a political-type agreement, the draft for which was already prepared in April.

Also, for our colleagues' information, a news conference is planned on 14 August at 1220 GMT at the Visitors' Palace, on Latviu Street.

Arms Stockpile To Be Organized in Republic

OW0908115991 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1100 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Government of Lithuania has published a resolution envisaging the stockpiling of arms in the republic. The document says that the Lithuanian Government is establishing the arms reserve in order to avoid further tragic incidents (this refers to the tragedy at Medininkai—"BALTFAX") and to "protect the motherland." The reserves will include arms and ammunition donated by organisations and individuals, weapons and ammunition confiscated in connection with violations of the republic's laws and also funds transferred to the reserve account. The resolution specifically states that arms will only be distributed with the permission of the republic's government.

More on Stockpiling of Weapons

LD1208130491 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 0543 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Excerpts] [Announcer] When we go over to Vilnius for the latest news from Lithuania, it is almost a custom for us to start by asking our correspondent there, Elena Kurkletite, whether the night passed peacefully and how the day in general—in this case, the week too—has begun. And this is the question we will begin with now, Elena. Yesterday there was a meeting at the Vilnius OMON [Special Purpose Militia Detachment] base. Were there any incidents?

[Kurkletite] Even for correspondents it is difficult to follow events these days. You can't be in several places all at the same time. The newspapers don't arrive until the afternoon. What's more, the information published in the press is sometimes very contradictory. It all depends on which newspaper you read. Left-wing papers, right-wing papers, independent papers, government papers, and the organ of the Central Committee of the Lithuanian Communist Party all tend to look at things differently.

Well, let's return to your question and the "OMON out!" vigil organised by Sajudis. A tented encampment was pitched outside the Vilnius OMON base for three days. The aim of the picket was to protest the presence of OMON in Lithuania. The Sajudis leaders say they are not accusing OMON of the murders at the Medininkai customs post. That bloody crime is being investigated. But they feel that OMON's illegal activities prepared the ground for those tragic events.

[Announcer] Colleague, how did the unit respond to the picket?

[Kurkletite] Both sides declared that they would not initiate any aggressive action or provocation. In fact, a few days ago a different kind of meeting took place outside the base, this time in support of OMON. It was not well attended. So, political passions are raised in Lithuania at the moment as far as OMON is concerned. The majority are expressing their hatred and contempt, while a minority are passionately in favor. Both groups have avoided provocations and conflict, thank goodness.

[Announcer] Can we say that the situation in Lithuania has worsened as a result of the Medininkai tragedy?

[Kurkletite] Yes. Following this tragedy Lithuania is prepared to defend itself—and not just with songs. Such as the view of most of the republic's parliamentarians. After the shooting of the policemen and customs officials, an urgently convened emergency meeting of the Lithuanian Supreme Soviet was attended by the maximum number of deputies. They prepared seven different documents. The basic message of these documents is as follows: We can no longer rely on non-violent resistance alone. Resistance should now come from state institutions of defense rather than volunteer forces. That is the gist of the documents which were adopted. One of these documents says that a weapons stockpile will be set up in Lithuania. Let me quote the document. In order to forestall possible armed actions by inhabitants of the Republic of Lithuania, we support the public initiative to donate weapons for the defense of Lithuania's independence. The creation of the stockpile will regulate this activity. This continues the tradition of stockpiling weapons which developed in Lithuania between the two wars. End quote. Such as the aim behind the establishment of the Lithuanian weapons stockpile.

[Announcer] What arrangements have been made for the handover of weapons?

[Kurkletite] Weapons must be surrendered at urban or district police commissariats or local commandant's offices of the territorial defense department. The procuratorate-general of the Republic of Lithuanian has also stated that persons who voluntarily hand over weapons, cartridges, and explosives will be absolved of criminal and administrative liability for illegal possession of weapons. [passage omitted]

The Lithuanian Government has ruled that all requests from citizens for plots on which to build private homes,

social amenities or production buildings must be satisfied from 1 October onwards. Some 10,000 plots have been prepared for residents of Vilnius alone. People who want to set about their own building projects will receive loans. [passage omitted]

The reaping of bread-grain is now in full swing in Lithuania. A fair harvest is expected. [passage omitted]

Vaisvila Protests Crimes by USSR Servicemen

OW1008035591 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1900 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Lithuanian Vice-Premier Zigmas Vaisvila has sent a message to the USSR First Deputy Prime Minister Vitaliy Doguzhiyev who heads the Soviet delegation for consultations with Lithuania. It points to the considerable growth of crime committed lately by the Soviet Army and USSR Interior Ministry servicemen in this republic. There have also been an increase of traffic accidents through their fault.

The message reports that on July 23 in the Vilnius region Soviet soldiers captured equipment belonging to the Lithuanian Interior Ministry's Fire Protection Department. On August 7 two soldiers made an attempt to rob a car. They offered resistance to a policeman so that the had to use arms. As a result, one of the soldiers was heavily wounded and died on the way to a hospital. On August 8 two soldiers tried to rob a shop in Kaunas. Between August 6 and 8 four traffic accidents occurred through Soviet soldiers' fault. In the city of Panevezys Soviet military servicemen working at an aircraft-repairing plant have occupied five apartments without permission.

The Lithuanian Government insists that "urgent measures be taken to restore law and order, as well as discipline in Soviet military units stationed in Lithuania, all property seized by the military be returned and military chiefs responsible for disturbances be punished."

More on Vaisvila's Protest

LD1108212991 Riga Radio Riga Network in Latvian 1730 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] The Vice-Prime Minister of the Republic of Lithuania, Zigmas Vaisvila, yesterday evening sent a telegram to the First Deputy Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, the leader of the USSR delegation in the talks with Lithuania, Vitaliy Doguzhiyev. The telegram says that the government of the Republic of Lithuania is forced to turn to the USSR Government in connection with the tangible increase in the numbers of crimes committed in recent times by soldiers of the USSR regular units and units of the USSR Internal Affairs forces in Lithuania. The document mentions that Soviet soldiers have stolen arms and equipment belonging to the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania, including a fire engine which was found on a kolkhoz in Vilnius Rayon; that Soviet soldiers in a drunken state have tried in Vilnius to steal a private car; that on 8 August two Soviet soldiers tried to rob a food shop in Kaunas; that in the period between 6 and 8 August because of a (?scene) involving Soviet soldiers, railway traffic was disrupted at Panevezys; that on 8 August drunken Soviet paratroopers caused (?injuries to) three civilians at Druskininkai; and so forth. At the end of the telegram, Vice-Prime Minister Zigmas Vaisvila requests that Vitaliy Doguzhiyev inform the government of the Republic of Lithuania about the sanctions it has adopted, so that such acts of violence by soldiers of the Soviet Army are not repeated, as well as reiterating the demand that subunits of the Soviet Armed Forces release the radio and television buildings of the Republic of Lithuania.

Kaunas Military Tribunal Acquits Soldier

OW1208185991 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1330 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Lithuanian Government's press service reports that the Military Tribunal of the Kaunas Military Garrison has acquitted a soldier of the Soviet Army Uldis Ozolins.

After serving more than a year in various units of the Soviet Army Uldis Ozolins was transferred to military unit 89580 of the Kaunas Military Garrison. However, he decided to desert and returned to his homeland—Latvia—where he began the alternative service. He explained his desertion with improper relations in the Army. Shortly after his arrival in Latvia he was detained and sent back to Kaunas.

Oil, Gas Price Increases Impacts on Market

LD1108014891 Vilnius Radio Vilnius International Service in Lithuanian 2100 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] We have learned that the Soviet Union has issued a regulation increasing the wholesale prices of crude oil and gas products. Although the document was signed on 30 July, it is effective retroactively to 1 July.

The price increase will have an effect on Lithuania's energy market. It will mean a 14 ruble increase per ton of crude oil. Electric energy will also become more expensive.

Yeltsin To Issue Decree on Presidential Power

LD1208124291 Moscow All-Union Radio First Program Radio-1 Network in Russian 1000 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] According to information of the RIA [RUSSIAN INFORMATION AGENCY], a Russian presidential decree on the structure of presidential power will be signed in the next few days. The establishment of administrations of executive power in every region is envisaged.

Speaking at a meeting with the leaders of the Federation of Independent Trade Unions of Russia, the Russian leader explained that until the forthcoming elections of heads of local administrations, these people will be appointed by presidential decree. What is more, the first ten to fifteen will be appointed this week. Their duties will include efficiently informing the grass roots of decrees and other decisions by the Russian leadership. They are to provide assistance in implementing these decisions and notify the president and the Council for Affairs of the Federation and Territories of the genuine state of affairs at grass-roots level. According to Yeltsin, they will not interfere in the activity of local authorities.

Yeltsin Issues Decree on Committee For Disabled

LD1208124191 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 0800 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Russia's President Boris Yeltsin has issued a decree setting up a committee for disabled persons' affairs. This body will take steps to put into effect a global program of action in the Russian Federation in this sphere to help invalids. According to official figures there are 15 million disabled people in Russia. The committee will take care to improve their living standards and enable them to be of use to society. There's a general belief that too little has so far been done for disabled persons in the country. Now when society is on its way to a market, care about invalids is of special significance.

Opposition to Signing of Union Treaty Cited

Deputies Urge Yeltsin Not To Sign

OW1308032591 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1830 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] A group of people's deputies from various factions in the parliament of Russia have opposed the draft treaty of the union.

People's deputy Anatoliy Medvedev has told IF [INTERFAX] that the slightly amended draft treaty contains no mention of the RSFSR Constitution. Russia's relations with other members of the union would be regulated exclusively by the treaty. Medvedev fears this would make Russia disappear as a united state, because autonomous republics and other ethnic units in the RSFSR would have the right to sign the treaty on their own.

"I hope Boris Yeltsin has common sense to avoid fatal confrontation between himself as Russia's President and the Russian Supreme Soviet parliament and to put off the signing of the treaty of the union until the next session of parliament.

People's deputy Sergey Yushenkov believes that the RSFSR congress of people's deputies will not ratify the treaty of the union. "The treaty is criticized from the left and from the right, so I believe that in this matter we will be unanimous", Yushenkov said.

If Boris Yeltsin is reluctant to postpone the signing of the union treaty, Yushenkov said, a group of law-makers will urge the members of Russia's delegation to boycott the ceremony of signing the treaty.

The group of union treaty's opponents has asked Boris Yeltsin for a meeting. It is going to take place on August 14.

Democratic Russia Objects

LD1208104891 Moscow TASS in English 0806 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Tallinn August 12 TASS—"Democratic Russia" objects to the Russian Republic's signing a new federal treaty on August 20, as scheduled, because the treaty is "contradictory and fuzzy", Yuriy Afanasyev, a leading member of the movement told a news conference here on Sunday.

Yuriy Afanasyev also cited the Russian parliament's decision to scrutinise the treaty before it is signed. He warned that if the wish is ignored, this will lead to a conflict between President Boris Yeltsin and the Russian legislature.

Afanasyev added that Russia's signing of the federal treaty ahead of the Ukraine may be interpreted as an attempt at bringing pressure to bear on the latter.

He also pointed to Russia's relations with republics that are unwilling to sign the treaty remaining unregulated.

Afanasyev argued that the signing should involve the convocation of a founding meeting of plenipotentiary republican representatives.

Silayev Interviewed on Union Treaty

LD0908214791 Moscow Radio Moscow in Czech 1800 GMT 7 Aug 91

[Interview with Ivan Silayev, prime minister of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic, by Irina Chaykova; place and date not given; Silayev speaks in Russian, fading to Slovak translation—recorded]

[Text] (Chaykova) The paper NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA has recently carried on its front page this banner headline: Start of the New Union is Set for 20 August. Naturally, this does not refer to a new spaceship of the Soyuz type, but to the signing of the basic document that will direct the life of the USSR, mutual relations among the republics, and relations between the republics and the center. There were two approaches. The first was as soon as possible to sign a new Union treaty as soon as possible. The second was perfect it first and then to sign it. What is your view, Ivan Stepanovich?

[Silayev] Well, the best thing would be to sign the improved treaty so that we do not need to rework it afterwards. The document that we will sign on 20 August will be a step forward. The Russian parliament is positively inclined towards it. Naturally, that time factor played a very important part. Delay in signing the Union treaty looks like a gallows which is destroying all the economic reforms.

What will we gain by approving this document? First, the roles of the Union and republican offices will finally be delimited. As is known, the center will continue to safeguard national defense and state security. The Republics themselves will determine the variant of the economic reform which best corresponds to local conditions. But there will be a united currency throughout the country's territory—the ruble—and that is very important, particularly since from 1 January next year, as stressed by the chairman of the Union Government, the internal convertibility of the ruble will be introduced. Second, new situations exists in international affairs. The USSR will continue to act as a great power, preserving all the pledges that it takes upon itself, including the pledge on nonproliferation of nuclear weapons. There were no disagreements in this. The new Union treaty safeguards the right of the republics to maintain diplomatic, business, scientific-technical, cultural, and any other relations with foreign countries. We have never had this before. In my opinion, the address of the USSR President, Mikhail Gorbachev, on Soviet TV on 2 August was very important. He stressed the open character of the new Union treaty which one can join even after some time has passed. For example, Russia and Kazakhstan have already made a choice. Others have the opportunity to think, to consider all the pluses and minuses. Indeed the question is very important—it is not a short sprint where the main thing is to be the first to reach the target. Let us repeat once again that the Russian Federation has made its choice in favor of a new Union treaty.

Leningrad Leader on Gorbachev-Yeltsin Collusion

OW1008214591 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1630 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The leader of the Leningrad CP organization, Boris Gidaspov, told a news conference on Friday that Mikhail Gorbachev's refusal to abrogate Boris Yeltsin's decree banning party organizations from factory premises indicates that the document may have been coordinated between the two presidents beforehand.

B. Gidaspov told journalists of his new function in the Military Council of the Leningrad Military District, where he is now in charge of "civilian and party organizations' contacts with the district's military units."

Communist Party CPSU Expulsions Criticized

Movement for Democratic Reforms

PM1208162291 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 10 Aug 91 p 2

["Statement of the Political Council of the Movement for Democratic Reforms," under the general heading "Irregular Expulsions"]

[Text] By a decision of the Russian Communist Party Central Committee Plenum, A.V. Rutskoy and V.S. Lipetskiy have been expelled from the CPSU. Any party's internal issues are not our problem. But we cannot ignore the moral and political aspect of the matter. Again and again Russian Communist Party leaders talk about cooperation, consensus, consolidation, and dialogue, but act in the old Stalinist spirit, in the traditions of the worst days of the past.

The Political Council of the Movement for Democratic Reforms regards this as further evidence of the Russian Communist Party leadership's inability or unwillingness to abandon the practice of persecuting dissidents and to act in light of the new sociopolitical situation.

We condemn any acts of political vengeance, whoever they are directed against, and we regard them as actions not conducive to civil peace and the normalization of the existing situation.

We draw the attention of the public to the fact that in this instance the people in question are the vice president of Russia, who was elected by all the people, and one of the initiators of our movement, which represents the reformist movement in society.

The aim of this act is easily perceived: It is directed against the processes of democratic development in the country, and is resolutely condemned by the movement's political council.

Democratic Party of Russian Communists

OW1008011991 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1700 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Democratic Party of Russian Communists (DPRC), created last week, "does not consider the Central Committee of the Russian CP [Communist Party] in a position to decide questions connected with CPSU

membership. The leaders of the Russian CP are not competent to judge communists who are not in their party." These ideas are discussed in detail in Friday's announcement by the DPRC on the decision by the plenum of the Russian Communists to ban the chairman for the new party's organising committee, A. Rutzkoy, and a member of the organising committee, V. Lipetskiy.

The authors of the statement emphasise that the DPRC is a Russian organisation within the CPSU and was formed in line with the basic principles of the constitution of the CPSU. There is therefore no formal reason to exclude members of the DPRC from the CPSU.

The statement also expresses the regret that the Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, without having even received the documents from the founding conference of the DPRC made a statement declaring their decisions "incompetent" and their documents "inapproriate".

Ilin Derides Democratic Reform Movement

914B0288A Moscow PRAVDA in Russian
3 Aug 91 Second edition p 2

[Article by RSFSR Communist Party Central Committee Second Secretary Aleksandr Ilin: "G. Popov Has Suddenly Opened Our Eyes: What the Leaders of the Democratic Reform Movement Are Striving For"]

[Text] For some reason, it gives me pleasure to read G. Popov's articles and his interviews to the domestic and foreign mass media.

I am writing about this without a trace of irony. Well how can I not thank one of the leaders of the new democracy if he so frankly and openly speaks about things when others prefer to remain silent? Or they express themselves in such a flowery manner that you do not immediately understand what their true intentions are. As Saltyko-Shchedrin wrote, either they want the serve the Constitution as a sturgeon and horse radish delicacy or they want to rob us blind.

One of perestroyka's founders, who spent an enormous number of words proving the thesis that the CPSU is the guarantor of perestroyka, has finally admitted just six years later that part of his initial scheme was his intention to essentially accelerate and see through to its triumphant end the dismantling of this "guarantor." Another dedicated his life to serving the Communist Party while covering the path from rayon Komsomol staff activist under Stalin to a key post in the country's political leadership under Brezhnev, Andropov, Chernenko and so forth—right up until recently. And only later, having become intimidated by impending dictatorship, things became so clear to him that he even surrendered his party membership card. A third....

But then again, you do not have to list them all. I will only single out the common quality for the majority of the varieties of new old politicians—it turns out that not only diplomats have the characteristic ability to conceal their thoughts. Read at least the founding materials of the initiators of the Democratic Reform Movement and you will easily become convinced that it is impossible to catch sight of their true goals due to their masterful combination of exceedingly clever sentences. You try to figure out where they are actually urging you to go—to the broad movement with democratic slogans or to the new party where the leaders' places have already been allocated beforehand? The majority of those who have proclaimed themselves such only quite recently occupied not nearly the lowest levels in the CPSU's hierarchical pyramid that they left under various pretexts.

Where is a rank and file Communist to go if the future party has still not devised a name for itself and its bosses are the former ones who are so painfully familiar with the upper strata of the one-party system? Those who previously did not only "bend along with the Party line" but who themselves also zealously bent it and are comfortably settling themselves in under the new system. But the rank and file Party members who are once again placing themselves under the leadership of their former leaders will hardly be able to place themselves on a level with the leaders in the structures that have been created. They, the leaders-founders, have easily jumped from the highest floors of the nomenklatura to being advisors, presidents of associations, deputies, etc. And the mass movement and, still better, the party has also just appealed to the new nomenklatura figures to not feel lonely in the impressive democratic posts.

Regarding the party, perhaps I hurried the well-known statement stated diplomatically: A founding conference or congress will decide if it will or will not be. We will not force anyone, our cause is to prepare a program and charter and then we will see. In short, if the sturgeon is not very fresh and if the Constitution is even more stale....

Well, suddenly Gavriil Kharitonovich is opening our eyes. Indeed, his signature is under that statement but the appeal is a collective document and the product of compromises and diplomatic moves. G. Popov is frank in his personal statements: "A new party is needed"—and there are no highlights. For now it is a movement, he explained to a meticulous ARGUMENTY I FAKTY (No. 29) correspondent. "I am confident that the movement will become a party at the founding congress in September." Then and there, naturally, he is dissociating himself from the party of the Leninist type—"with meetings and membership cards. This must be a parliamentary party which will not command from its offices but, in the event of victory in the elections will itself go to work in government offices."

What he says is crystal-clear. A party is only a party. There are no membership cards, meetings, etc. Regarding offices, maybe it is somewhat ingenious but it is also easy to understand: We have won, we will rule. It is true that what has not been stated is whether or not there will be enough ruling offices for everyone or only for the select few. And how will this be in keeping with

the policy toward departyization of state institutions and enterprises that Gavriil Kharitonovich supports with all his heart. Well, it is nothing, perhaps the founding fathers will sort this out—they are all great reorganization experts.

G. Popov also explained other intricate obstacles that have been hidden away in the spreading verbal branches of the appeal of the "nine." That the new party must "not so much reshuffle existing parties as much as attract new forces, primarily from the CPSU." And that the President (we need to think—of the Union) can as a result of this "undoubtedly count on something and it would be absurd not to play to him in this political game." But then and there Popov states "hardly anyone is playing in any game. A party must be created in September and it is impossible to be a member of two parties."

Here how can we not thank Gavriil Kharitonovich?! I know that some of my acquaintances have been vacillating for some time: Do they join the movement or not. They say they are not planning to leave the party but why are they not promoting democratic reforms? We are not some kind of conservators, not some sort of reactionaries, we are not suffering from nostalgia for the past—really we recall that at one time sugar was not rationed and that cotton socks were available without "calling cards" or yet some other of the thousand small items that have recently disappeared without a trace in the stores. Now they have nothing to toss in bed about in doubt of persons who think like them: G. Popov has assigned everyone to their own seats. And he does not speak idly.

I also read his statements in the press with pleasure because, unlike many of his democratic colleagues, he never succumbs to euphoria from the victories of the new forces. But will he really weaken a bit—who does not become weak? But he is warning and putting his comrades more on guard: we have seized a part of power but still not all of it. We need to go further. We won the elections—that is fine but less than half of the total number of voters voted for us so "the democrats are on the verge." Furthermore, there is no unity in their ranks and there are not enough cadres or experience. They need to resort to a coalition and find allies while uniting the "constructive forces from the democratic camp, from the apparat camp, and from the republics that have a different orientation." Where else will you find such a detailed analysis of the disposition of the democrats' political forces, strategy, and tactics?

I agree with Gavriil Kharitonovich that all of those people who are interested in completing democratic reforms and in creating alternatives to totalitarianism have many common interests. This is also formation of the conditions for a market economy and strong executive power ("no one will do anything without it"), and the system, and the discipline, and the understanding that today it would be more rational and more advantageous for all of the republics (and for some time) to act together.... But only I cannot forget how just recently G. Popov participated in democratic rallies where appeals were heard to say "no" to the referendum for the renewed Union. How the Mossoviet that he heads has frequently permitted itself to ignore Union Government decisions—that same executive power which the mayor of Moscow is now fighting to strengthen. Maybe this is due to lack of experience?

In my opinion, the democratic founder has still one more small shortcoming: He loves both his opponents and his supporters and he is afraid of narrow-minded rank and file people. That is fine if he was the Moloch of the command-administrative system—there are grounds for this. But both that ubiquitous apparat, the impending famine, etc. are frequently presented in the role of the Sword of Damocles (it seems that he is now also ready to reconcile himself to them). In his opinion, right now a new threat is looming on the horizon—Fascism, in the lumpen-conservative variation. No social strata, really except for the peasantry, has been able to escape the charge of Fascism because, according to G. Popov, the lumpen define its "face:" lumpen-patriots, lumpen-chauvinists, lumpen-proletariat, lumpen-intelligentsia, lumpen-bureaucrats, and lumpen-apparat. "And the extreme conservatives will count on those people who will be able to dupe the masses."

The picture turns out to be horrible. And since it is as if there are no analogies in our history, the reference is made to the Germany of the 1920's-1930's. G. Popov warns, "The people who promise all of the benefits and announce that they are pure at rallies, that they do not have any ties at all with either the conservatives or the democrats, and that it is they who will save the country, will come to power." We agree that the threat actually exists and that all honest people need to rally to prevent it. If only the following reaction does not fade among all of the people: these same promises are still ringing in our ears and people who themselves in no way belong to the lumpen have also advocated them at recent rallies.

Fortunately, not all of Gavriil Kharitonovich's predictions are coming true so I hope that true democracy will not permit itself to be intimidated. But we need to draw conclusions. And, primarily this one: Democracy is neither a transitory slogan nor a card in a political game. It is the meaning of our common efforts and that for which all people are striving in the depth of their soul. But the people and its interests are higher than all parties and movements no matter what they call themselves.

Republic Government Appointments Promulgated

PM1208110591 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 8 Aug 91 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Appointments"]

[Text] The following have been appointed by RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] presidential decree:
Aleksandr Ivanovich Tretyakov—administrator at the RSFSR Presidential Administration Office;

Aleksey Filippovich Poryadin—chairman of the RSFSR State Committee for Municipal Housing;
Vladimir Borisovich Bugak—RSFSR minister for communications, information technology, and space;
Valeriy Petrovich Chernogorodskiy—chairman of the RSFSR State Committee for Antimonopoly Policy and Support of New Economic Structures;
Anatoliy Aleksandrovich Arzamastsev—chairman of the RSFSR State Committee for Employment of the Population;
Leonid Stepanovich Cheshinskiy—RSFSR minister of procurements;
Dmitriy Leonidovich Fedorov—chairman of the RSFSR State Committee for Geology and the Exploitation of Mineral Resources;
Sergey Kuzhugetovich Shoyga—chairman of the RSFSR State Committee for Emergencies.

Bilateral Treaties To Be Signed With Republics

LD1008223691 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 2100 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] This year Russia will complete the process of signing bilateral treaties with the republics of the USSR. This was stated in an interview with a news agency correspondent by Andrey Fedorov, Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic deputy foreign minister. He said that the text of a new agreement with Armenia has already been drafted. The treaty will be signed after the referendum in the republic. Treaties with Georgia, Azerbaijan, and the Central Asian republics are also being prepared.

Tyumen Oil Leaders, Russian Government Meet

LD1208222791 Moscow TASS in English 1820 GMT 12 Aug 91

[By TASS correspondent Mikhail Prutkin]

[Text] Tyumen August 12 TASS—Leaders of the Tyumen region will spend this week in Moscow. Today, together with the Yeltsin team, they began to revise the decree on the special status of this West-Siberian region, rich in oil and gas resources.

The lack of attention to the West-Siberian oil and gas complex, the reduction of capital investments and the sharp deterioration of supply were the reasons for falling out of step of the mechanism, adjusted by the, no matter how poor it was, command and administration system.

Thousands [of] wells are out of operation, the majority of pipelines are in a critical state. One cannot cut this knot of problems with one strike.

According to First Deputy General Director of the Tyumenneftegaz Association Anatoliy Tyukalov, Russian president, when on a trip around the region, touched upon only visible, superficial matters: badly organised social sphere and people's discontent with the current policy.

Thus came his promises to lift the limitations from wages, and extra pays, the intention to leave to those who earned them.

40 per cent of foreign currency proceeds which were to be removed under the decree of the Soviet president and statements that 30 per cent of the raw materials will be left to enterprises.

However, even the oil which is now extracted will soon fail to satisfy the internal needs of the country.

Experts believe that if the situation with the oil extraction is not stabilised today, the Soviet Union will have to import hydrocarbon raw materials already in 1994. Last year oil extraction dropped by 37 million tonnes, this year the index will be 50 per cent as high.

Sure, one cannot sell oil cheaper than mineral water. And, as Boris Yeltsin said during his trip around the area, the increase of prices on the hydrocarbon raw materials will soon be discussed with leaders of the republics.

Today the Moscow exchange sells petrol at almost 1,000 rubles per tonne against the state prices of 60 to 70 rubles, Tyukalov noted.

If the state price goes up, it will inevitably tell upon the contractual price, at which Tyumen enterprises will sell the promised one third of extracted raw materials. It is clear even to an amateur, that a chain reaction will follow.

Certainly, the planned measures, concerning the care about people, are very important. However, the stabilisation of the extraction remained off screen. Enterprises will also use their profits to satisfy social needs. But who will pay for the equipment?

As far as oil extracting equipment is concerned, the Soviet Union is 25 to 30 years late in comparison with foreign countries. Technologies became outdated. It is not clear who will pay for the modernisation of the production.

Skepticism of Siberian oil extractors can be easily explained. They want the Russian president's decree to pull the oil and gas complex out of the sharpest crisis instead of becoming just another program alienated from life.

That is what Tyumen representatives and Russian government experts will do in the near future.

Ivanenko Discusses Russian KGB's Plans, Duties

91UF1043A Moscow TRUD in Russian 3 Aug 91 p 2

[Interview with Viktor Ivanenko, acting chairman of the Russian KGB, by TASS commentator V. Ponomarev specially for TRUD; place and date not given: "Not To Miss the Last Chance"]

[Text] **He is 44, born in Tyumen Oblast. His family lived in a rural settlement. Father—a rural settlement soviet chairman—died early. The war had caught up with him—wounds and contusions had taken their toll. It fell to Viktor, the eldest, to raise two sisters and help his mother, who still lives in Tyumen. He went to school in Ishim, then failed to gain admission to an aviation school. He met his future wife in the Tyumen Industrial Institute student construction brigade. She is a construction engineer. Three daughters were born, one after another. They are growing up, attending school. His service career was determined while he was still young: Upon graduation from the institute, he was invited to join the state security organs. Recently he held the post of chief of the Tyumen Administration of the KGB, and was then transferred to the USSR KGB Main Inspectorate.**

He does not have his own dacha or own a car. His hobbies: volleyball. An inveterate hunter, he dreams of hunting for forest game in some remote parts, but has not had a vacation for a long time and does not know when he will take one....

There are three sevens on the door of his modest and somewhat cramped office "behind Dzerzhinskiy's back." "A lucky number," in his aide's opinion. For some reason, however, I did not see the office owner—acting chairman of Russian GKB [acronym as published]—display any sign of happiness....

Our conversation started with the issue that concerns and interests everybody today.

[Ponomarev] Viktor Valentinovich, it appears that the Russian president's decree on the departyization of state bodies has overshadowed all political passions. Yeltsin is being accused of violating the presidential oath, in which he promised to promote civic consensus. As chief of the Russian KGB, how do you see this situation?

[Ivanenko] Everybody is talking about civic consensus today. This is natural, because we do not have any other way to survive. Unfortunately, everybody also places a different meaning on this word. It is hardly justified to see the way to civic consensus in giving preferences and concessions to only one of the parties—the one that currently operates within state structures. In this sense the decree is aimed at current and future changes in society. Not in words but in deed it places all parties and movements under equal conditions. Therefore, all criticisms directed at the president of Russia, accusing him of allegedly strangling the emerging democracy and of violations of human rights, are at the very least incorrect.

I would put it this way: We have to see the final goal of this decree, which is to ensure true civic consensus. Bodies of executive power should not have communists, or cadets, or monarchists, or liberal-democrats (not as such but in the sense of political preferences that influence their work); there should only be citizens of Russia, who obey only the law and who without deviation implement that law and not the decisions of their parties.

The heated polemics that have unfolded around the Russian president's decree are already inflaming the otherwise tense situation. I am concerned, for instance, that after the published statements of party committees there will be an attempt to get our personnel involved in the "protest" campaign, in the collection of signatures, adoption of appeals, etc. We have to avoid all of this. It is necessary for the Communists themselves to determine which form suits them best—whether it is a temporary suspension of their membership, or joining the territorial party centers and the network of party clubs. Because, no matter how widely and heatedly this presidential decree is debated, no matter what conflicting opinions it is engendering, it has to be obeyed, as is the case in any civilized law-based society.

As for the Communist Party of Russia position, it is time for its leadership to rise to a new level of political analysis in appraising their own role and place in the current situation.

There is a line in the old song: "First think about the Motherland, and then about yourself," and it was right. We cannot neglect the prevailing moods among the people. And the mood is that the people reject the old regime and link the sores of that regime in most cases with CPSU activities. I do not want to delve into an analysis of the causes and consequences of these moods. I am, however, convinced—we have to know how to lose! I am a Communist myself, and I am in no hurry to change over to a different platform. I believe that the original socialist, communist idea contains a lot that is positive, and that it has enriched world history and political culture. The problem is with the perversion of this idea, and in deviations from it. Sooner or later society will return to these primordial ideas. Today, however, in the environment of the transition period the situation demands that Communists regroup their forces. To dig in, as had happened with Article 6 of the Constitution, would bring out an explosion of popular anger, and flare-ups of violence and malice.

It would be desirable, of course, for the laws too to be oriented to a greater degree toward civic consensus and draw support from it. Our society, however, is already split, and there is a danger that some people will try to reap political dividends from this split. This should not be allowed to happen.

Would you not agree that, having proclaimed a multiparty system at its congress, the CPSU and the Communist Party of Russia have done practically nothing to define the party in the new and precarious situation? Is it not strange that now the president of Russia has to think of this, instead of the top CPSU leadership? I am convinced: The decree on the departyization of state bodies is a serious attempt to reach civic consensus.

[Ponomarev] In connection with their subordination to the KGB of Russia, there is talk in local organs about the coming purges and an across-the-board recertification of all employees. What is actually being planned?

[Ivanenko] We have held a first conference of heads of Russian security organs. I hope it has dispelled these fears. Although, as Zhvanetskiy puts it: When they say bad things are ahead, I believe them, but when they say things will be good, I do not... I would formulate this issue wider than you did, however—the concerns actually mostly related to a fear that we (I mean state security personnel) would again be turned into a card to be played in the next round of the political game. I am saying "again" because this has happened before at various times. Remember the 1930's. There was a need to suppress the opposition and create an environment of forced economic development. The fear invoked by the NKVD [People's Commissariat for Internal Affairs] was used for that. It is not accidental that the people again fear the same card may be used now....

The Russian president's speech at our conference, and the draft law on republic security and its organs that was presented to us by Russian legislators remove these concerns. I am stating with conviction: We will work in accordance with the law. And only the law!

As for the purges... Boris Nikolayevich said unequivocally that there should be no purges. The criteria for personnel selection are clear: readiness to honestly serve the legitimate power, patriotism, and professionalism. Plus, of course, human decency.

[Ponomarev] How actively and successfully is the forming of the Russian KGB proceeding; is there mutual understanding, and is there not overt or hidden resistance? If there is, what are its manifestations?

[Ivanenko] You are asking a very complex question. I will be frank, however: The forming of the Russian KGB requires surmounting some very serious difficulties. This is not a matter of desire or resistance on the part of one person—Kryuchkov, for instance—or members of the collegium. Every system, especially one that has elements of bureaucracy, resists reform. We come in with a proposal: Give us some of your personnel and resources. But they are living people—some will have to leave, some will have to be replaced. It is they who start a passive resistance. And this is the main difficulty. I think that our conference, which the leadership of both the USSR and Russian KGB attended, provided a good thrust toward overcoming it. We were able to state our concept and identify a number of problems. I would say that we have reached an understanding.

[Ponomarev] You mentioned Russian laws. Are you not satisfied with the Union Law on State Security Organs in the USSR? Or is it a tribute to the fashion—the war of laws, in which laws are adopted just to pique the others? Are there differences?

[Ivanenko] Had there been none, would we need Russian laws? We see the Union law as the "basic beginning." However, some points in the Union law are not satisfactory either for us, professionals, or for the RSFSR power bodies. To put it mildly, these points are holdovers of the unitary thinking, when the center tried to give as few powers to Russia as possible by bringing everything under its own command.

Besides, here in Russia we have republics that have their own committees for state security, and we need to delineate powers.

We have no intention of being in conflict with the Union law. God forbid, as they say—especially in such a complex and important sphere as state security. Boris Nikolayevich, too, stated this clearly. Nevertheless, there are things we need to fine-tune and make more specific at the republic level.

[Ponomarev] In general, how are your relations with the central apparatus subunits developing?

[Ivanenko] I will not lie to you: We feel a certain guardedness. Our society is generally permeated by suspicion, and the organs even more so. There are sometimes whispers behind the back. Sold out to democrats, they say, trying to earn his keep. This is probably from the area of holdovers of the past.... The important thing is that there is no confrontation. When it comes to resolving specific problems, directly related to security matters, or meeting requests of the Russian leadership, we have good businesslike relations and everything is done quickly and well.

By the way, there have been rather speculative, in my opinion, laments in the press in regard to the dual subordination of the Russian KGB that almost amounted to condolences in our direction. I want to make it clear: We are subordinate to the president of Russia, and the Supreme Soviet and the government of the republic. We will recognize the dominant role of the USSR KGB central apparatus in some matters, in accordance with the agreement on the delineation of competence. But we are far from being servants of two masters. The sovereignty of Russia has changed some things in our hierarchy. It would be ridiculous, however, to fall out of the single intelligence and counterintelligence system that all the other committees are hooked into. The process of republic sovereignization will continue. It is important that this not lead to the destruction of the single infrastructure. To achieve this, not only understanding at the local level but also some movement from the center—toward meeting us halfway—is needed.

[Ponomarev] Viktor Valentinovich, in the recent past the democrats seriously took the security organs to task for so-called secret police activities. At the same time, it has been announced that the structure of the Russian KGB will include an administration for combating anticonstitutional activities, which, some people suspect, is the home of the former "fifth" directorate. Does it not turn out that when it comes to the shirt on one's own back, old principles are forgotten, and that the democrats are taking into their arsenal the secret police they so much maligned?

[Ivanenko] First, let me assure you that the democrats have no bearing on defining the functionality of this administration. Second, it is fundamentally different not only from the former "fifth" but also from currently existing units for protection of the constitutional system. One of the differences is that our administration will be involved in uncovering, preventing, and halting specific crimes. For instance, there is a threat to the constitutional system from interethnic conflicts—one direction will be involved in this. There is terrorism—manifestations of which have already occurred in Rostov and other cities—we will get involved in that, as well as those who publicly call for the violent overthrow or change of the existing system. At this point, the state does not yet have a mechanism of control over the activities of public associations and parties.

[Ponomarev] The KGB is sometimes "decoded" as "committee for state poverty" [komitet gosudarstvennoy bednosti]. In "hot spots" around the country I have seen more than once that the forces our Chekists have to face are far ahead in terms of means of transportation, long-range radio communications, and electronic equipment. Unlike the Chekists, they do not have any problems with either gasoline or hard currency. The local organs that have now been subordinated to you are entering the field of combating economic crime without receiving a single extra staffer, not a ruble, not a liter of gasoline, not a bolt. Is it possible for the organs subordinated to you to work effectively under such conditions?

[Ivanenko] With the rare exception, this is true. In some areas the soviets gave us a helping hand, but this is of course mere crumbs. In the situation of general poverty, sick children, destitute hospitals, and empty store shelves it seems improper to bring up our problems, but there are many of them, believe me, and the issue of material support and social protection of KGB personnel was among the priorities at this recent conference. These days a major, a senior operative, is paid no more than a street sweeper in Moscow or Leningrad. And he is expected to combat organized crime, whose representatives are ready to offer him a bribe of 150,000 rubles. Of course, we will not provide this kind of pay, but we have to make sure that he can provide well for his family. Boris Nikolayevich said at the conference that we will be resolving social problems in stages.

There are also reserves within the budget allocated to us. We should probably regroup ineffective structures, and some technical programs could wait.

Of course, we need to use all opportunities in full. Common sense dictates, however, that if a state wants to ensure reliable security this will cost money. It does not make sense to economize on such matters—life has taught us this lesson.

Ukraine

Fokin's 'Alarm' at Grain Sales Position Cited

PM1208130191 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 9 Aug 91 First Edition p 1

["Harvest-91" report by Colonel A. Polyakov: "'Symptom of Collective Selfishness'"]

[Text] "A symptom of collective selfishness" was how Ukrainian SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic] Prime Minister V. Fokin diagnosed the "illness" manifested in the actions of many leaders of oblasts, rayons, and kolkhozes in the republic who are reluctant to deliver grain to the state and carry out state orders. Speaking on republic television, Vitold Pavlovich said that millions of tonnes of grain could rot away on the primitive threshing floors of kolkhozes and sovkhozes. For example, in Zaporozhye Oblast harvesting is virtually over now, but only 19 percent of the state order has been met. And some rayons have only met 5-10 percent of the delivery plan. While holding on to grain in the hope of reselling it and bypassing the state granaries, the oblast leaders are at the same time declining to accept responsibility for supplying the cities with foodstuffs.

To meet the needs of the 50-million-strong population of the Ukraine it is essential to procure 18 million tonnes of grain, but it is also necessary that it be delivered to the state. By the start of August 26 million tonnes of grain had been ground, but only 6.2 million tonness sold to the republic. A particular sense of alarm is caused by the fact that instances of calls to close elevators down and not hand over the grain are already being circulated—with relish—by certain segments of the mass media.

At the same time the prime minister noted that the Crimea and certain farms in Nikolayev, Odessa, and Donetsk Oblasts are successfully fulfilling the state order. With a sense of deep alarm at the grain delivery situation the head of the Ukrainian Government appealed for grain to be sold to the state. Otherwise, he warned, a lean winter and bread rationing could become the harsh reality rather than idle speculation.

Agricultural Produce Exports Banned

LD1108162891 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1100 GMT 11 Aug 91

[Text] A government decision prohibiting the export of agricultural produce from the republic has come into force in the Ukraine. The ban will remain in force until the state order has been met. The measure, which the government has found itself forced to take, is aimed mainly at middlemen from the Baltic republics and the Caucasus. According to Ukrainian Prime Minister Fokin, about 260 mobile and permanent checkpoints will be set up in the republic to prevent the export of produce.

Intelligentsia Urged To Support Independence

LD0908200491 Kiev Radio Kiev International Service in Ukrainian 2200 GMT 8 Aug 91

[Text] At a news conference by Rukh and the Narodna Rada an appeal was read by Ivan Drach, prepared by the organizational committee of the forum called Intelligentsia of the Ukraine. In addition to Ivan Drach, the committee includes Petro Talanchuk, rector of Kiev Polytechnic; Mykola Zhulynskyy, deputy director of the Shevchenko Literature Institute of the Ukraine Soviet Socialist Republic Academy of Sciences and Academician Oles Honchar, who agreed to chair the committee.

The appeal was read by Ivan Drach.

[Begin Drach recording] We address the intelligentsia of the Ukraine. We address you, dear colleagues, in the dramatic period of our national history. The Ukraine today faces Hamlet's choice: to be or not to be an independent state. Are we to be the masters of our own fate or are we to remain in the situation of statehood, economic, ecological, and cultu al decline.

In these days, when the cultural, scientific, intellectual and spiritual life of the Ukraine is seized by a profound crisis, when our republic is clouded by a threat of becoming mute for a long time in a military vice of the new union's unitary state, we must speak about the future of the Ukraine. We have no moral right to stay silent. Only an independent democratic state will be able to ensure the preservation and development of national traditions, to guarantee the freedom of creativity and intellectual activity and revive, through its governing bodies, education, health protection, science and culture.

Our voice, the voice of the Ukraine's intelligentsia, must be heard by the Supreme Soviet of the republic, which adopted the state sovereignity declaration on 16 July last year and which must express its attitude and, thus, the attitude of our people to the signing of the Union treaty.

We are convinced that only the absolute freedom of displaying personal initiative, guaranteed by the state, the freedom of creative and intellectual activity, can elevate culture, science and education to a new level of mutual relations between person and state. Therefore, we call on you, dear colleagues, to gather on Saturday, 14 September, in the Cinematography House, for a forum on the Ukraine's intelligentsia, to express our attitude to problems and perspectives of the development of Ukrainian culture, science, and education and ways to perfect the state independence of the Ukraine. [end recording]

The appeal has been signed by up to 50 figures.

Communist Party Confident of Union Treaty Signing

OW1308060391 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1430 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The member of the Ukrainian Communist Party [UKP] Central Committee Aleksandr Popovich said with confidence that Ukraine will sign the Union Treaty. In his interview to an "IF" [INTERFAX] correspondent he refused to predict when it would happen. But Popovich argues that it must be done before the republican presidential elections scheduled on December 1.

A. Popovich stressed that the UKP stands for the future Union as federation but not as confederation. "Confederation is the same form which hinders to integrate economy to a sufficient extent," he said.

A. Popovich said that a degree of integration with the Union might be different for all the republics.

Hungarian Foreign Minister Ends 'Official' Visit

LD1108200391 Budapest MTI in English 1828 GMT 11 Aug 91

[Text] Beregovo, August 11 (MTI)—Hungarian Foreign Minister Geza Jeszenszky ended his four-day official visit to the Ukraine on Sunday.

On Sunday, Jeszenszky and his party visited the town of Mukachevo. The foreign minister met with representatives of the Hungarians living in the town, then travelled to Ivanovka, where the delegation attended a ceremony at which a memorial erected in memory of the victims of Stalinism was unveiled. The memorial was initiated by the Cultural Federation of Hungarians in sub-Carpathia.

Speaking at the ceremony, Jeszenszky reconfirmed that the Hungarian Government will continue to do everything possible in the interest that relations between sub-Carpathia and Hungary be as close as possible. The new border crossing points to be opened in the near future will also serve this end.

The next stop of the visit on Sunday was the Turul (a mythical eagle of the ancient Hungarians) Memorial in the village of Vilok. He viewed the almost completed building of the new border crossing station near the village. The delegation then went on to the last visit of the day, in Beregovo.

The Hungarian foreign minister and his party left Beregovo for Budapest on Sunday evening.

Moldova

IZVESTIYA Cites Snegur Denial on Treaty Signing

PM0908205591 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 Aug 91 Union Edition p 2

["Direct Line" report by Eduard Kondratov: "Moldova Will Not Sign Union Treaty"]

[Text] Kishinev—The decree of Moldovan President Mircea Snegur confirming in their posts the mayors [primar] of cities of republic subordination and rayispolkom [rayon soviet executive committee] chairmen has marked the coming into force of the reform of local self-management, which presupposes a sharp strengthening of executive power.

The first stage of the reform is beginning, in which the republic's present administrative-territorial division into rayons will be preserved temporarily, but one-man management in the person of city mayors and rayispolkom chairmen is being introduced. Endowed with new, wider powers, they will bear full responsibility for state management on their territories. Local soviet ispolkoms [executive committees] are being abolished in settlements, villages, and small cities.

The second stage of the reform will be the creation of districts [uyezd], each of which will swallow up several rayons. However, parliament will consider the new map of Moldova only in November. The published list of mayors does not mention the heads of executive power in Tiraspol, Beltsy, Rybnitsa, Bendery, or Komrat—cities which ignore the execution of the Law on Local Self-Management adopted at a recent session of the Moldovan parliament.

At a meeting with ispolkom chairmen and mayors Moldovan President Mircea Snegur made a long speech in which he described Moldova's attainment of state independence as the chief line of the political course which he is pursuing. He described as provocative the allegations and the allusions filtering into the press that the Moldovan leadership intends to sign the Union treaty. This will not happen, despite all the efforts of the center.

However, according to Snegur, the situation is considerably complicated by sociopolitical formations geared to union with Romania. They openly oppose Moldova's acquisition of state independence.

Republic Leaders Vow Not To Sign

LD1308063591 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 0600 GMT 13 Aug 91

[Text] Moldovan President Mircea Snegur has made it clear that the leadership of the republic does not intend to sign the Union treaty, NOVOSTI NEWS AGENCY reports. He swept aside assertions that have appeared in the central press to the effect that there is hope for Moldova's possible participation in the Union treaty.

Snegur also came out sharply against a number of sociopolitical movements that think the course for independence is a utopia and who see Moldova's only salvation as lying in unification with Romania. He called on the leaders of movements at odds with each other, of interfronts and unions, to renounce group interests and to find possibilities for compromise.

Independent Course Reaffirmed

OW1008044391 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1430 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] President Mircea Snegur of Moldova has categorically denied the rumours that the republic's leadership intends to sign the Union Treaty. On Friday, he said in Kishinev that these rumours were "a provocation" and stressed that he would continue to do everything possible to achieve independence.

"Today one can hear accusations against the course the republican leadership embarked upon both from the left and from the right", Mr Snegur said.

"The Communist press persistently continues to publish appeals, letters, collective complaints. This adds to the pressure from the Centre which has been fluctuating to coincide exactly with the actions of local opponents, with vituperations and attacks in the press by advocates of separatism, colonels from the "Soyuz" ("Union") group haunted by obsessive ideas, and recently with ideas of the self-proclaimed "saviour and father of peoples" Zhirinovski, Mr Snegur said.

What is required now, Mr Snegur said, is a centrist platform based on wishes and aspirations of workers, peasants and intelligentsia to direct the democratic forces toward joint actions. According to Mr Snegur, the present situation points to the need for urging all mass movements to launch themselves on the path of dialogue, unity and understanding.

"It is in this way only that we will be able to counter the pressure from the Centre and local destructive forces, only in this way will we be able to achieve sovereignty and independence. The present leadership of Moldova will never abandon these goals, and it urges the Moldovan people to continue to place their confidence in us", Mr Snegur pointed out.

RSFSR's Silayev Arrives To Sign Trade Agreement

OW1208113191 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1030 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] "The economic relations that have existed hitherto are disadvantageous to both Russia and Moldova, regardless of whether or not Moldova remains within the Soviet Union," announced the President of the RSFSR Council of Ministers at Kishinev airport. The Russian prime minister had arrived in the republic to sign an agreement on the principles of commercial and economic cooperation between Russia and Moldova in 1992.

In response to the question whether or not the political situation has a bearing on the fulfilment of any economic agreement, Mr. Silayev remarked that as far as the Union Treaty is concerned, it was Moldova's affair whether or not it decided to sign. "I would separate political considerations from economic ones," he said. "From an economic point of view, it is not in the interests of either side to interrupt the development of relations."

Prime Minister Silayev also emphasized that all the contradictions in economic relations between the two republics had been ironed out. He said that in 1992 the volume of trade between Russia and Moldova will be valued at 12 million rubles.

The Prime Minister of Moldova, Valeriy Muravskiy, added that relations can be stabilised and severed links between Russian and Moldovan businesses renewed by way of direct contacts without the mediation of the centre.

Meets President Snegur

LD1208170891 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1303 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Kishinev, 12 Aug (TASS)—"The visit by a delegation of Russia to Moldova will give confidence to our enterprises and organizations in establishing the links lost recently," Valeriy Muravskiy, prime minister of Moldova, stated during a meeting at the airport with the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic delegation headed by Ivan Silayev, prime minister of the republic. The delegation arrived on an official visit in Kishinev today. The press service of the Information Department states that it is proposed that an agreement on the principles of commercial and economic relations between Russia and Moldova for 1992 will be signed during the visit.

Replying to journalists' questions at the airport, Ivan Silayev stressed that both Moldova and Russia have announced the transition to fundamentally new economic relations. "We speak of integration into the world economy but that is not possible without a change in our previous internal approaches," he noted. The expansion of bilateral economic relations on market principles and also active cooperation with other countries acquires particular significance here. Ivan Silayev also reported on the transition to world prices in mutual deliveries of the main types of products.

In the opinion of the head of the Moldova Government, "other questions may also be removed" through the development of economic links. However, this should be a "gradual" process, "taking account of our realities."

Meetings between the delegations of the two republics also took place today at which a draft agreement was discussed. The prime minister of Moldova and also Mircea Snegur, the president of the republic, received the head of the Russian delegation.

Trade, Economic Agreement Signed

LD1208174791 Moscow TASS in English 1704 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Kishinev August 12 TASS—Russian and Moldovan Prime Ministers Ivan Silayev and Valeriy Muravskiy signed in Kishinev today an agreement "on the principles of trade and economic cooperation

between the Russian Federation and Moldova for 1992". Silayev arrived on a one-day official visit to Moldova on Monday.

According to the republican news agency MOLDOVA-PRES, the document, in particular, determines that "the trade and economic relationship between the sides will be carried out on the basis of mutual benefit, equivalent exchange and the principles of international law".

The sides pledged to work to keep mutual deliveries at 1990 level. They agreed to coordinate deliveries of essential types of products at governmental level and to discuss the nomenclature and volumes of these products.

Experts and specialists have managed to work out an acceptable wording with regard to settlements on the basis of world prices, a major stumbling block at the initial stage of the talks. The relevant provision of the agreement stipulates that payment for the deliveries of essential agreed-upon types of products, work and services will be done according to world prices.

"Considering the situation in 1992, the sides have agreed to conduct settlements on a clearing basis. Payment for the deliveries of remaining products shall be negotiated by enterprises and organisations."

The agreement provides for creating joint ventures, including with partners located outside the Republic. The Russian Federation and Moldova agreed "to provide legal protection for state property, the property of judicial persons and citizens of one republic on the territory of the other republic".

Silayev and Muravskiy made statements for the press after the signing of the agreement. They expressed satisfaction with the signing of the document that laid the foundation for further cooperation.

They noted that experts and specialists in various branches of the economy would meet shortly to elaborate and prepare for signing several important agreements as a follow-up to this agreement. This process must be completed by October [number indistinct].

Silayev Comments on Talks

LD1208203691 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 1800 GMT 12 Aug 91

[From the "Vremya" newscast; video report by correspondent M. Sokirke]

[Text] Our next report is from Kishinev, where a Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] Government delegation headed by Ivan Stepanovich Silayev [chairman of the RSFSR council of ministers] has been, as we have reported.

[Sokirke] During meetings with the government and with Mircea Snegur, the republic's president, it was noted that an identity of views on integrational processes and a desire to preserve the traditional principles of the exchange of goods has been confirmed over the past year. The issue of supplying raw materials and goods directly was also examined seriously. The grand finale of the visit was the signing of an intergovernmental agreement on principles of economic cooperation between the RSFSR and Moldova for 1992. [video shows Silayev walking down the aircraft steps and being met by Muravskiy; taking part in meetings; the signing of the agreement by Silayev and Muravskiy]

[Begin recording] [Silayev] We have formulated it [the agreement] as the principles of economic relations in 1992 and have laid down some absolutely new approaches here which are in fact movement toward market relations.

[Muravskiy] It seems to me that we have approached things with due regard for the present realities in our life and our economy and it seems to me that we have chosen the optimum formula for an agreement for 1992 taking these realities into account.

[Silayev] Whether we cooperate or not economically today doesn't even depend upon the will of one leader or other. The economy is an objective lady, as they say, and a fairly capricious one, too, and as a rule, therefore, she takes political pride badly, especially as we are so deeply integrated in our cooperation that drawing back and especially disregard for economic cooperation at any level is fraught with serious consequences, not just for tiny Moldova but for immense Russia, too. [video shows silayev and Muravskiy speaking to a group of correspondents] [end recording]

Georgia

Slovene Independence 'Officially' Recognized

LD1208173191 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1656 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Tbilisi, 12 Aug (TASS)—The Supreme Soviet of Georgia "has officially recognized the creation of the independent state of Slovenia, and has expressed a willingness to provide help of all kinds to the struggle of its people for self-determination," the SAKINFORM agency reported today. At the same time, the Georgian Parliament expresses the hope that "all problems linked with the formation of the new state in Europe will be resolved without the use of force and by means of peaceful negotiations".

As is noted by SAKINFORM, the statement circulated here by the republic Supreme Soviet says that "Georgia is willing to start talks immediately on the establishment of diplomatic relations with Slovenia, and expresses the willingness to promote the deepening of friendly relations between the peoples of the two countries."

USSR Foreign Ministry Statement

LD1208183291 Moscow TASS in English 1819 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Moscow August 12 TASS—The following statement by a Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman has been released here:

"According to the GEORGIAN NEWS AGENCY, the Supreme Soviet of Georgia 'has officially recognised the creation of the independent state of Slovenia.' Georgia also said it was going to begin talks on the establishment of diplomatic relations with Slovenia.

"This step in effect repeats a similar statement by Lithuania two weeks ago.

"It is necessary to stress again that the actions by the authorities of Lithuania and Georgia cannot have any international legal consequences because neither is an independent subject of international law.

"Politically, such statements, as was noted, do not promote the settlement of the situation in and around Yugoslavia through the peaceful dialogue of interested countries [word indistinct] framework of territorial integrity of Yugoslavia."

Further Reportage on Renaming of Republic KGB

PM1308110191 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 10 Aug 91 First Edition p 1

["Direct Line" TASS report: "New Name, New Tasks"]

[Text] The Georgian KGB has been renamed the Sakhemtsipo Ushishvroebis Komiteti [as transliterated] (SUK)—the republic national security department. In this connection questions of its definitive separation from the USSR KGB and the priority directions of its further activity were discussed at a meeting between President Z. Gamsakhurdia and the leaders of the department.

As the republic information agency SAKINFORM reports, the national security department is faced with the task of "fulfilling a major role in exposing and neutralizing hostile actions by imperial forces against Georgia."

Batumi Conference Resolution on Black Sea

AU0608114691 Tbilisi SAKARTVELOS RESPUBLIKA in Georgian 23 Jul 91 p 1

[SAKINFORM report: "'Let's Save the Black Sea'"]

[Text] As we have informed you, an international conference entitled "Let's Save the Black Sea" was held in Batumi on 13-14 July on the initiative of Georgia's Greens.

It was agreed at the conference that in November of this year, all the countries of the Black Sea basin will organize a clean-up of their shorelines. On the initiative of the Ukrainian Green Party, a preparatory international organizational committee has been created that will organize action by the Greens on a wide scale in 1992; on the proposal of the Turkish Green Party, a special international newspaper will be published in Turkey devoted to the problems of the Black Sea.

It was particularly emphasized at the conference that every effort must be made in order to implement the complete demilitarization of the Black Sea and to remove Soviet and NATO military bases. Today, following the dismantlement of the existing totalitarian regimes in the Black Sea states, we have an historical opportunity to transform our common sea into a zone of peace and cooperation and ecological security.

The conference aroused great interest among international environmental protection organizations and Green parties from many countries.

A very positive evaluation was given of the interest being shown by the Georgian Government in regulating the problems of the Black Sea, which has been manifested in the welcome given to the conference by Zviad Gamsakhurdia, the republic's president, and by the fact that the Republic of Georgia Supreme Council has covered the costs of organizing the conference.

The conference adopted a resolution which states:

We, the participants of the international meeting in Batumi devoted to the problems of the Black Sea, express extreme concern at the very serious ecological situation that has been created in the Black Sea. The existing situation calls for the immediate adoption of drastic measures. In connection with this, we consider it necessary:

1. To declare the Black Sea an ecological disaster zone; to create an international commission comprising experts from the UN and other international organizations that will elaborate an international program for saving the Black Sea.

2. To conclude, in the course of one year, an international convention on the protection of the Black Sea's environment and on the improvement and stabilization of the situation that will be signed by Turkey, Georgia, the Russian Federation, the Ukraine, Bulgaria, and Romania.

3. To determine the responsibility of the Danube countries for the serious ecological situation that has been created in the Black Sea and, accordingly, to detail their participation in the international convention on the protection of the Black Sea and in programs of scientific and technological cooperation.

4. To make an immediate start on compiling ecological data for the entire coastline of the Black Sea, establish the level of pollution, and single out ecological zones of conflict; to review the current maximum pollution limits taking into account contemporary data and methods.

5. To take an inventory of cross-border pollutants; to impose strict international control on the transportation of such pollutants.

6. To create a joint ecological-geophysical monitoring system based on a synthesis of experimental observation and mathematical models; to initiate the free exchange of ecological and other information for the purpose of creating appropriate centers in towns located on the Black Sea coastline and in the capital cities of the Black Sea countries; to develop scientific and technological cooperation on a broad scale.

7. To declare the Black Sea a non-nuclear zone and to implement the dismantlement of Soviet and NATO military bases along the whole Black Sea coastline; to implement the consecutive conversion of existing military installations.

8. To establish permanent sea alert duty for which purpose each country is to provide at least one ship; to create an international ecological patrol.

9. To declare the first week in April and the last week in November each year as days for cleaning up the Black Sea coastline.

We note with satisfaction the active role that Turkish President Turgut Ozal and Georgian President Zviad Gamsakhurdia are assuming in connection with the problems of the Black Sea although we believe that it is time we switched to concrete actions.

It has to be categorically stated that, in addition to the governments of our countries, the population must also assume the greatest responsibility for resolving the current problems. We attach particular importance to the development of cooperation between the Greens of the Black Sea countries not only in order to conduct ecological and antimilitaristic campaigns but also to strengthen cultural and economic contacts between our countries. Therefore, we agree to continue to hold meetings in the future and to implement joint cultural, ecological, or other initiatives.

Shevardnadze Supports Efforts

AU0808114591 Tbilisi SAKARTVELOS RESPUBLIKA in Georgian 25 Jul 91 p 3

[SAKINFORM report: "The Georgian President's Initiative is Receiving Support"]

[Text] During the last two decades, the sharp deterioration in the ecological situation in the Black Sea has reached a dangerous limit. Each year, hundreds of tons of petroleum products and various organic and mineral compounds end up in the sea. There has also been a considerable increase in bacteriological pollution. In certain coastal regions diseased microflora has appeared that is threatening the existence of the sea's biocenosis and the use of the shoreline for recreational purposes. The problem of the pollution of the Black Sea has become alarming.

With the arrival of national forces to power in Georgia, a number of governmental initiatives in connection with the ecological problems of the Black Sea have begun to be implemented. Here are several facts and documents.

In June of this year, a forum of the Krano-Montana Fund was held in Switzerland at which one of the central questions presented was the ecological problem of the Black Sea.

Tengiz Sigua, chairman of the Government of the Republic of Georgia, Minister of Foreign Affairs Giorgi Khoshtaria, and Ramin Jomidava, representative of the initiative group of the Georgian public, participated in the work of the forum. The republic's president sent the following message to the forum's participants:

"The Black Sea, which is a unique basin of the planet, is on the verge of an ecological crisis. It is being intensively polluted with industrial and domestic wastes. The ecosystem's biocenosis—fish, mollusks—are on the verge of extinction.

It must be stated that the hydrogen sulphide layer is gradually increasing.

Therefore, I call upon the governments of those countries that are interested in the problems of the Black Sea to cooperate with one another.

I propose that an intergovernmental commission on the ecology of the Black Sea be created under the aegis of the UN.

The Government of the Republic of Georgia will create all the conditions for the aforementioned UN commission to enable it to form an organizational committee and will promote its successful work.

I trust that you will give thoughtful consideration to my proposals."

The message from the republic's president aroused great interest among the participants of the forum. The press gave wide coverage of questions connected with the president's initiative.

Discussion of the ecological problems of the Black Sea was continued on 11-12 July in Moscow at a meeting of the deputy foreign ministers of those countries interested in this issue.

As Batoni [Georgian polite form of address] Ramin Jomidava informs us, the countries interested in the problem of the Black Sea announced their agreement in principle with the proposal of the president of the Republic of Georgia—to create an international secretariat in Georgia that will organize operations connected with the stated problem.

A whole number of famous international organizations have expressed the desire to participate in work connected with the problems of the Black Sea.

A little later, on 13-14 July, on the initiative of Georgia's Greens, an international conference entitled "Let Us Save the Black Sea" was held in Batumi. Delegations from Green parties and environmental protection organizations, scientists, and specialists from Georgia, Turkey, the Ukraine, and Bulgaria and representatives of the Republic of Georgia Supreme Council and the Ministry of Ecology and the Utilization of Natural Resources participated in the conference.

A number of interesting agreements on topical questions pertaining to the improvement of the ecological situation of the Black Sea and its salvation were concluded at the conference.

Recently, the following document addressed to Zviad Gamsakhurdia, president of the Republic of Georgia, arrived from Moscow:

"Your Excellency! We are sending you the enclosed draft message from E. A. Shevardnadze, president of the Foreign Political Association, to the heads of government of the European states and also of the United States, Canada, and Japan that concerns the problem of the ecological situation of the Black Sea basin and urgent international measures aimed at its salvation.

The draft was prepared in Switzerland in connection with the corresponding request of the initiative group of representatives of the Georgian public that participated in the meeting on problems of the Black Sea held in the town of Krano-Montana.

We would be grateful if you would let us know how you view this step." The letter is signed by P.S. Akopov, acting director of the Foreign Political Association, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary.

Batoni Eduard Shevardnadze's draft message is of great interest. It states:

"The problem of the ecological situation in the Black Sea that has compelled me to write this letter to you does not only concern the narrow national interests of the ecological security of a region that is standing on the path of degradation. It is, to say the least, a common European, partly Asiatic and, in the final analysis, a global problem. As is well known, negative ecological processes do not recognize any boundaries, and they can transform any nation into a hostage of passive indifference on the part of official state structures toward questions connected with the anthropological effect on the environment.

The problem of the Black Sea, which, at the same time, is also inextricably linked to the problem of the Mediterranean Sea, is viewed by the international community as an ecological danger that is a threat to the whole of mankind....

The necessity for an immediate resolution of this problem and its vital significance give me the moral right to request that you familiarize yourselves with the enclosed materials and make known your views and suggestions for the practical implementation of the ideas proposed in them.

Without anticipating the final conclusion that will be drawn by those participating in the discussion of this question, I would like to hope that you will view with understanding the necessity of creating a working mechanism and an appropriate organizational structure that will be capable of implementing the harmonic coordination and integration of the efforts of the countries of the basin in order to achieve the stated aim. The Government of the Republic of Georgia is ready to create the appropriate conditions for the normal functioning of the newly formed international organization....

I await your concrete ideas and proposals in connection with the stated question which would enable us to hold a meeting in the near future to summarize them."

We will point out here that, prior to the composition of this letter, Batoni Eduard Shevardnadze was in correspondence with the republic's leaders on this subject. In particular, from our republic, he received a letter from Tengiz Gvirishvili, an adviser to the president of the Republic of Georgia, doctor of physicomathematical sciences, and committee member of the International Association of Meteorology and Atmospheric Physics. The letter states:

"The ecological situation in the shelf and depths of the Black Sea basin is becoming increasingly critical and alarming. Zviad Gamsakhurdia, president of the Republic of Georgia, in his letter to the participants of

the forum that was held in the town of Krano-Montana (Switzerland), noted with particular concern that unpredictable cataclysms could occur in the Black Sea basin.

To prevent a catastrophe occuring in the Black Sea, what we need are not individual expeditions on a small scale but comprehensive and detailed research on a large scale conducted not only by the Black Sea countries but also with the help of the developed countries and with their direct participation.

I am empowered by the president of the Republic of Georgia to convey to you that he fully supports your initiative to send a special message to the heads of the world's leading countries."

Batoni Zviad Gamsakhurdia's initiative has aroused the interest of scientists from other countries. The president has received letters from scientists from different countries in which they express their readiness to cooperate with Georgian specialists to resolve the ecological problems of the Black Sea. Here, in particular, is what Academician Valeriy Belyayev, chairman of the Commission on Problems of the World Ocean attached to the Presidium of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences, writes:

"Together with specialists from this region of the country, Ukrainian oceanologists are planning to expand ecological research in the Black Sea and are ready to establish contacts with Georgian specialists."

Resolution on Solving Republic Economic Problems

AU1208100891 Tbilisi SVOBODNAYA GRUZIYA in Russian 30 Jul 91 p 1

[Supreme Council of the Republic of Georgia Resolution "On Urgent Measures To Extricate the Georgian Economy from the Crisis, To Stabilize It, and To Reduce the Deficit of the Emergency State Budget of the Republic of Georgia for 1991," issued in Tbilisi on 25 July]

[Text] A very difficult economic situation has taken shape in the Republic of Georgia. The national economy is in an acute crisis; the volume of production has further decreased, the commodity deficit has grown on the consumer market, and the population's standard of living has deteriorated.

The implementation, during the current year, of retail prices reform and of a complex of measures to ensure social protection of the population has led to significant changes in the revenues and expenditure of the republic's state budget for 1991, and, as a result, the budget has acquired an emergency character. Revenues and especially expenditures of the state budget have increased; the deficit has considerably exceeded 4 billion rubles.

The Supreme Council of the Republic of Georgia resolves:

1. To take into consideration the report by Guram Absandze, Minister of the Economy and Finance of the Republic of Georgia, on the extrication of the Georgian economy from the crisis, on its stabilization, and on the Emergency State Budget of the Republic of Georgia for 1991.

2. The permanent commissions of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Georgia, jointly with the Government of the Republic of Georgia and ministries and departments of the republic must continue their work on the elaboration of the program for urgent measures to extricate the national economy from the acute crisis, to stabilize it, and to reduce the deficit of the state budget.

3. The Government of the Republic of Georgia must submit, within one week, a program for urgent measures to extricate the economy from the crisis, stabilize it, and issue a more detailed emergency state budget for 1991.

Akakiy Asatiani, chairman of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Georgia.

25 July 1991.

Tbilisi.

Procedure for Recalling Deputies Amended

AU1208141091 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Russian 30 Jul 91

[Republic of Georgia Law "On Introducing Changes and Additions Into the Republic of Georgia Law 'On the Procedure for Recalling Members of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Georgia'"]

[Text] The Supreme Council of the Republic of Georgia resolves as follows:

Articles 27-31 of the Republic of Georgia Law "On the Procedure for Recalling Members of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Georgia" must read as follows:

Article 27. A certificate on registering the application in the Central Electoral Commission is issued to the organizing body, and, within three days, the application is forwarded to the Permanent Commission on Mandates and Deputies' Ethics of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Georgia. This application is discussed, within two weeks, by the Supreme Council, and during the period between sessions, by the Presidium of the Supreme Council, and, if the motivation for recalling the deputy is recognized as justified, the Central Electoral Commission is authorized to proceed to processing the application.

Article 28. The Central Electoral Commission informs a representative of the organizing body of its decision within three days upon receiving the instruction from the Supreme Council or from the Presidium of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Georgia, and grants

the organizing body the right to collect signatures of the voters of the electoral district regarding the pertinent question.

Every page of the document being signed contains the text of the deputy recall demand written by those voters who are in favor of such a recall; it is followed by the surname, first name, address, serial number, and the number of the [internal] passport, the date of signature, and the voters' signatures. The pages are numbered. Every page is certified by signatures of all the members of the organizing body.

Article 29. The organizing body collects, within two weeks upon receiving the right to do so, signatures of those voters in the corresponding [electoral] district who are in favor of recalling the deputy; these must account for at least 10 percent of the total number of voters in the district.

Article 30. On instruction from the Central Electoral Commission, the district electoral commission, jointly with Supreme Council fiduciaries and members of the organizing body, conduct, within two weeks, a selective verification of the validity of signatures of those voters who support the recall of the deputy. The quantity of signatures to be verified is determined by the Central Electoral Commission. If 5 percent of the total number of signatures of the supporting voters are found to be invalid (a corresponding act is written in every such case), the Central Electoral Commission will terminate the activity of the organizing body upon presentation by the district electoral commission.

Article 31. The Central Electoral Commission for the Elections of Deputies to the Supreme Council of the Republic of Georgia analyzes, within two weeks, materials pertaining to the recall of the member of the Supreme Council and, if all the provisions of the given law have been fulfilled, it holds voting on the recall of the deputy elected to the Supreme Council of the Republic of Georgia."

[Signed] Zviad Gamsakhurdia, president of the Republic of Georgia.

25 July 1991.

Tbilisi.

Republic Supreme Soviet Adopts Privatization Law

LD0908215991 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1719 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Text] Tbilisi, 9 Aug (TASS)—From 1 October this year the first private enterprises will appear in Georgia on the basis of the Law on the Privatization of State Enterprises, which was adopted today at the session of the Republic of Georgia's Supreme Soviet.

The purpose of the law is the legal regulation of and provision for the process of the acquisition by citizens, and their associations and non-state juridical persons, of state-owned property. As far as the privatization of land and the state housing stock is concerned, it will be carried out on the basis of other corresponding legislative acts.

Resolution on Former Tskhinvali Rayon Published

AU1008182091 Tbilisi SVOBODNAYA GRUZIYA in Russian 30 Jul 91 p 1

[Supreme Soviet of the Republic of Georgian Resolution "On Creating Provisional Organs of Management and on Holding Elections to the Assembly on the Territory of the Former Tskhinvali Rayon" issued in Tbilisi on 25 July]

[Text] In view of the difficult situation that has taken shape on the territory of the former Tskhinvali Rayon, the elections to the assemblies could not, as yet, be conducted. For that reason, there is no organ of state power or administration at the level of temi [vernacular for community] or village.

Having discussed the proposal advanced by the prefect of Gori and Gori Rayon on the creation of local provisional organs of state government on the territory of the former Tskhinvali Rayon and on the holding of elections to the assemblies, the Supreme Council of the Republic of Georgia resolves as follows:

1. To instruct the prefect of the town of Gori and Gori Rayon to appoint provisional representatives of the prefect invested with the power of assembly administrators on the territory of former village soviets of the former Tskhinvali Rayon; their financial support must depend upon the quantity of available personnel and the wages fund.

2. The powers of the provisional representative of the prefect must be discontinued as soon as the administration chairman of the corresponding assembly is elected.

3. The elections of deputies to the assemblies of the temies of Kurta, Kemerti, and Berula must be held, respectively, on 25, 26, and 28 September 1991.

4. The present resolution becomes valid upon its publication.

[signed] Akakiy Asatiani, chairman of the Supreme Council of the Republic of Georgia.

25 June 1991.

Tbilisi.

Cadet Dies in Aftermath of Student Battles

OW0708024891 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1500 GMT 6 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] According to the information from Tbilisi, the incident with military students from the artillery school

who created a fight with local residents in one of the streets in Tbilisi on July 21 was continued. According to the information from the Tbilisi Artillery School's headquarters two military students were heavily beaten in the city in several days after the incident. The last week-end produced still more tragic information. Strangers threw the military student Aleksandr Ostrovniy who was going for a holiday out of the train. His corpse was discovered in Suranskiy Tunnel. The military men consider that this death can not be regarded separately from the previous fact.

Air Traffic Controllers Reject Strike Plan

OW0808004191 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1930 GMT 7 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Georgian air traffic controllers will not support a national strike scheduled for August 10, the chief of the Georgian civil aviation department, Mr. Demur Leladze, told IF [INTERFAX].

He added that Georgian air traffic controllers opted out of the strike given the republic's difficult economic situation, even though they support what Mr. Leladze called "fair" demands voiced by the strike committee.

He expressed his hope that the strike may be avoided. "I believe that both sides will reach an agreement which will make it possible to cancel the action scheduled for August 10", he said.

More on Air Controllers' Non-Strike

LD0908171391 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1615 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Text] Tbilisi, 9 Aug (TASS)—The air controllers of Georgia will not join in the strike which is planned by the air controllers of the USSR for 10 August. D. Leladze, chief of the republic's civil aviation directorate, reported this in the local press. Such a decision, in his words, has been taken jointly by the "air controllers" and the administration. While supporting the demands of their colleagues, the Georgian air controllers take into account, at the same time, the serious socioeconomic situation in the republic, which may be exacerbated as a result of the strike.

Armenia

Referendum Reportedly To Decide Republic's Future

LD1208230391 Moscow TASS in English 1918 GMT 12 Aug 91

[By TASS correspondent Tigran Liloyan]

[Text] Yerevan August 12 TASS—"The referendum on September 21 will be very important for the Armenian people and its future," said First Deputy Chairman of the Armenian Supreme Soviet Babken Ararktsyan. Speaking over republican TV, he said that "this will of the people as regards independence does not imply separatism, self-isolation and setting apart."

In this connection, Ararktsyan recalled that a treaty on the principles of interstate relations has been signed with Georgia, a treaty of the sort will soon be signed with Lithuania and a similar document has been prepared with the Russian Federation.

The referendum to answer the question whether or not Armenia will remain a part of the Soviet Union, provokes interest of both Soviet and foreign public opinion, as well as that of journalists.

Official delegations from all Union republics and U.N. representatives have been invited. A group of members of the Armenian Supreme Soviet's Commission on Foreign Affairs has visited 51 foreign embassies in Moscow to hand them invitations for sending their observers to the referendum.

One hundred and twenty personal invitations have been sent to renown politicians and public figures of many foreign states.

Ararktsyan, who is also the head of the central republican commission on the referendum, reported active preparations for this important arrangement, which is being carried out by both the central republican and city, district and divisional electoral commissions.

Touching upon the referendum campaign, he stressed the huge role of public and political organisations that "can express their stand" on the eve of the referendum.

Committee Reports Republic's Economic Indicators

NC1008130791 Yerevan Radio Yerevan International Service in Armenian 1630 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Text] The press has published the republic's State Statistics Committee report on Armenia's economic performance for the first quarter of 1991.

The results of this report indicate trouble in the republic's economy. Production has fallen in all areas. The industrial sector alone produced 200 million rubles less in the first quarter of this year due to the deterioration in the supply of energy resources. The economy lost nearly 50 million rubles during the second quarter due to border clashes with Azerbaijan.

The population of the republic totaled 3,610,000 on 1 July. Seasonal workers, people who have changed jobs, women providing care to children, and employees fired from their jobs constitute the republic's unemployed.

The republic's industrial output allows us to note some stabilization in this area.

The decline in industrial output, which was due to the winter energy crisis and blockades, and in production in most of the sectors has been stopped. The process of introducing new management methods is relatively

vibrant. The volume of exports is more than 9.6 million rubles for the first quarter of 1991. The volume of contractual supplies within the republic is 32 million rubles more than last year. Raw materials, manufactured items, and consumer goods made up more than 95 percent of the exports.

More on Republic Economic Figures

LD1208143191 Moscow All-Union Radio First Program Radio-1 Network in Russian 1200 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Armenia's Goskomstat has summed up the results of the development of the republic's national economy in the first half year. These testify to the tense situation in all branches of industry. Labor discipline has slackened. Due to the absence of raw materials and the supply of raw materials as well as the worsening of power supply, stoppages at enterprises are growing. The poor supply of power resurces and the events in the regions bordering on Azerbaijan alone have led to overall losses amounting to 50 million rubles. The gross national product, the national income, is less than for the same period last year. The selective investigation of the purchase of goods and services received—held in June—showed that for the period from March to May the republic's population made surplus payments to individuals of R228 million just for the purchase of clothes, footware, and cloth. The Armenian Supreme Soviet has adopted a number of legislative acts which create the legal basis for land reform and the privatization of land to be carried out.

Armenia, Lithuania Plan Cooperation Treaty

OW1008023791 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1700 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Armenia's delegation under republican parliamentary leader Levon Ter-Petrosyan is leaving for Vilnius on August 14 to sign a cooperation treaty between the two republics. It is planned to be signed on the same day.

Earlier Armenia signed a cooperation treaty with Georgia.

Meanwhile, Armenia's Supreme Soviet Presidium began to form delegations for visits to Moscow and to Union republics to hold political consultations during the runup to the signing of the Union treaty, according to the Armenian Supreme Soviet's information centre.

Yerevan Rayons Renamed; More Changes Planned

LD1108212591 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 1900 GMT 11 Aug 91

[Text] On the decision of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of Armenia, three rayons of Yerevan-Leninskiy, Ordzhonikidzevskiy, and 26 Komissarov—have been renamed respectively Shengalitskiy, Erebuniskiy, and Arabkirskiy. Later, three more rayons will be renamed Sovetskiy, Spandaryanskiy, and Myasnikyanskiy.

Participation in Azerbaijani Elections Viewed

NC1208082091 Yerevan Radio Yerevan Network in Armenian 1730 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] ARMENPRES correspondent Aleksandr Grigoryan reports from Stepanakert that the leaders of Stepanakert city and Nagorno-Karabakh's rayons met on 8 August at the oblast's soviet executive committee. The leaders decided that the oblast's population should participate in the Azerbaijani presidential election provided a number of urgent and fundamental problems regarding the situation in Nagorno-Karabakh are solved. The assembled leaders informed USSR President Gorbachev and Azerbaijani President Mutalibov of the decision. The leaders have defined the following issues as urgent: The restoration of the powers of the oblast and rayon soviets and their executive committees, the withdrawal of the armed groups from the local airport and restoration of normal airport operations.

The message to Gorbachev and Mutalibov notes that the meeting held recently in Baku between a group of officials from Nagorno-Karabakh and the Azerbaijani president was constructive but has produced no practical results to date. Because of this, some of the autonomous oblast's citizens are beginning to doubt the productivity of the new political course. The Armenian people are disturbed by the state of emergency, which has lasted over a year and a half; the unrelenting transport, economic and information blockade; and other types of coercive and psychological pressure they have to deal with on a daily basis.

The message stresses that the absence of the constitutional power in Nagorno-Karabakh makes holding the elections according to the law quite difficult.

If these problems are solved prior to the republican presidential elections on 8 September the majority of the oblast's population would be able to reconcile and a real basis for official negotiations would be achieved.

Republic Official on Fleeing Azerbaijanis

OW1308023291 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1830 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] As IF [INTERFAX] has already reported, the last 30 Azerbaijani families left the Niuvadi village, the Megri district in southern Armenia for the neighbouring Zangelan district of Azerbaijan on August 10.

The "SNARK" news agency quotes the Armenian Interior Ministry's reply to claims in the Azerbaijani press about what is described as the deportation of Niuvadi's residents.

The situation in the area worsened after the bodies of two local villages were found near the village. The Armenian Interior Ministry says investigators have found the murder was committed by Azerbaijanis, and not Armenians. The tension eased after 15 local residents were invited to joint the republican police force and accepted the offer.

The Armenian Interior Ministry says the departure of Azerbaijanis from Niuvadi began after the second secretary of the Azerbaijani Communist Party's Central Committee. At the last moment several families changed their minds.

The Armenian Interior Ministry has taken every step to secure the return of all other residents to their homes.

Group To Develop Republic Market Relations Plan

LD1308055291 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 1900 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Armenian Prime Minister Manukyan has signed an agreement in Yerevan with representatives of the Tiger international group on bilateral cooperation in the sphere of preparation of the draft program on economic reforms in Armenia. According to the SNARK NEWS AGENCY, work on this program will continue until the autumn of 1992. During this time, four symposiums will be held—in Amsterdam, Brussels, Geneva, and Yerevan. As a result of these meetings, a united concept for Armenia's full transition to market relations in the space of 10 years will be elaborated. The Tiger group already has experience in developing such programs, as its specialists took part in economic experiments in Hungary.

Republic Artist Resigns as USSR People's Deputy

LD0308090791 Moscow TASS in English 1534 GMT 2 Aug 91

[Text] Yerevan August 2 TASS—Grigor Khandzhyan, people's artist of the USSR, member of the USSR Academy of Arts and of the Armenian Academy of Sciences, told a news conference here today about giving up a mandate of USSR people's deputy from one of national-territorial districts of the republic.

He explained this decision by his disagreement with the activity of the USSR Supreme Soviet. The artist believes that the Soviet Parliament adopts short-sighted, unclear and contradictory programmes, wastes time, issues moribund laws, while the economy is disintegrating.

He said that the efforts of Armenian deputies group in the Union Parliament aimed at the solution of ethnic conflicts in Transcaucasia and other republics are futile.

Attacks on Villages Settled by Azerbaijanis

NC0608084591 Yerevan Radio Yerevan Network in Armenian 1730 GMT 5 Aug 91

["Nagorno-Karabakh, Attacks on Usurpurs"—radio headline]

[Text] Reports from various sources indicate that tension is mounting in Nagorno-Karabakh, particularly in those regions from where the Armenian population was forcibly deported.

The oblast's radio has reported that the villages of Getashen, Kirov and Dolanlar, now inhabited by Azerbaijanis, were attacked at the beginning of the month. There is no official information about casualties.

Two militiamen from the Azerbaijani village of (?Mishali) in Askeranskiy were wounded when an unlicensed VAZ car was fired on. Another militiaman, [name indistinct] was wounded in the same area on 4 August.

Government Reviews Quake Reconstruction Problems

PM0908083291 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 Aug 91 Union Edition p 2

["Direct Line" report by Sergey Bablumyan: "Armenia Is Still a Disaster Zone"]

[Text] Yerevan—The Armenian Government has considered the state of affairs in the disaster zone. Measures on stepping up reconstruction work are envisaged.

Only 20 percent of housing has been reconstructed in the cities and villages hit by the 1988 disaster, while in Leninakan the figure is even lower—only 17 percent. There is still an acute lack of schools and children's preschool institutions.

V. Manukyan, head of the Armenian Government, singled out several main problems whose solution determines how long the regions destroyed by the earthquake are doomed to be called a "disaster zone." They are primarily questions of financing construction, where, in the head of government's opinion, aid from the Union budget is essential. True, such aid should be counted on only if the republic makes the appropriate political decision.

Another problem, which was sharply exacerbated by the rise in construction material prices, is associated with loans for private construction: A house just cannot be put up for 30,000 rubles at current prices—at least 70,000 or so are needed. In addition to which the situation with material and technical supply here is getting worse all the time.

And another question: What employment is there for people in the disaster zone? The situation with the lack of jobs is aggravated by the thoroughly justified doubts about the advisability of reconstructing a considerable

proportion of enterprises which were producing obsolete products which are not in demand.

To encourage reconstruction work the republic Council of Ministers has planned, specifically, tax concessions to small enterprises and cooperatives operating in the disaster zone. It has also been decided to accelerate the privatization of trading and day-to-day facilities and certain industrial enterprises.

Thermal Power Station Resumes Partial Operations

NC0608102391 Yerevan ARMENPRES International Service in Armenian 1215 GMT 5 Aug 91

[Text] Yerevan, 5 Aug (ARMENPRES)—ARMENPRES reported a few days ago about the accident that took place at the Yerevan thermal power station. The station's director told our correspondent on 2 August that the work to repair the damage was proceeding expeditiously. The first phase has now been completed and two generators are back in operation. Enterprises in the area will begin receiving industrial steam on 3 August. [as received]

Gabrielyants Comments on Armenia's Oil Reserves

LD1008163191 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 1300 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] According to approximate calculations, oil reserves in Armenia amount to about 100 million tonnes. USSR Geology Minister Gabrielyants, who is in Yerevan, points out that this is not all that much. The minister believes that prospecting work should continue. However, in his view, large specialized organizations should be engaged in this work as such a volume of work is beyond the Armenian Government's power.

Report on Los Angeles-Yerevan Air Route Opening

OW0908223791 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1830 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] An airplane from the USA touched down at the Yerevan airport on August 9, opening a Los Angeles-Yerevan air route.

Flights will be once a week. The duration of the flight is 16 hours with a stopover in Ireland, says news agency SNARK.

Azerbaijan

Mutalibov's Meeting With Iranian Envoy Reported

NC1308103991 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 1700 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Text] President Ayaz Mutalibov received Mir Makhdi Mikhreban, deputy minister of foreign affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran, on 9 August. Welcoming the recent deepening of relations and the broadening of cooperation between Azerbaijan and the Islamic Republic of Iran, Mutalibov briefed his guest on the social and political situation and the reforms in the political and economic fields in the Soviet Union and Azerbaijan and explained the situation in the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast and the Azerbaijani rayons which border Armenia.

Mir Makhdi Mikhreban thanked President Mutalibov for receiving him and renewed his government's invitation to Mutalibov to visit the Islamic Republic of Iran. The dates of the visit were established during the meeting. Meanwhile, various matters of mutual interest also were discussed.

Mutalibov Invited To Visit Iran

OW1008230791 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1330 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Iran's Deputy Foreign Minister Mir Mekhti met in Baku on Friday with President Ayaz Mutalibov of Azerbaijan and confirmed that the Iranian Government officially invited him to pay a visit to Tehran. As IF's [INTERFAX] reporter learned at the Azerbaijani Foreign Ministry's press center, the date of the visit will be named later.

During the Baku talks the parties acknowledged progress in the development of Azerbaijani-Iranian relations.

Social Democratic Leader Under Investigation

NC1308105191 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 1700 GMT 10 Aug 91

[Text] The procuracy of the Azerbaijan Republic has launched a criminal investigation into Ali-zade Aras Mamed (?Muvahid Oglu). He has been accused of insulting the USSR and the Azerbaijan presidents, humiliating the supreme state organs, and describing the sovereign Azerbaijan Republic as a colony and the CPSU as a fascist party during his pre-election campaign speeches in Gorenboyskiy Rayon. Meanwhile, in view of his activities, which have had negative effects on the stability in the region, Ismet Gaibov, procurator general of the Azerbaijan Republic, has cautioned Ali-zade against violating the laws in the republic.

Prosecutor's Office Indicts Spokesman

OW1308024091 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1830 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Azerbaijani Prosecutor's office has started legal proceedings against the brother of the republican presidential candidate from the social-democatic group of Azerbaijan Zardusht Ali-zade, Araz, who is also the candidate's personal spokesman.

IF's [INTERFAX's] correspondent reports that Araz Ali-zade is charged with insulting statements he reportedly made during his visit to the Geranboisk (formerly Shaumian) district concerning the presidents of the USSR and Azerbaijan, as well as the highest bodies of power of the Soviet Union, a country where, according to Araz Ali-zade, Azerbaijan had the place of a colony.

More on Case Against Social Democrat

LD1208124891 Moscow TASS in English 1010 GMT 12 Aug 91

[By TASS correspondent Asildar Guseinov]

[Text] Baku August 12 TASS—The Azerbaijani public prosecutor's office has instituted legal proceedings against Araz Alizade, the leader of the Social Democratic Group of Azerbaijan.

The republic's general prosecutor Ismet Gaibov said the decision was prompted by Alizade's public speeches, in which he insulted Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and the Azerbaijani president during campaigning in the republic's Geranboi District.

Alizade is participating in the campaign as a personal representative of his brother Zardusht Alizade, who has been nominated candidate for republican presidency from the Social-Democratic Group.

Further on Investigation of Stepanakert Slaying

OW1308031991 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1600 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The investigation of the assassination of Valeriy Grigoryan, technical department chief at the regional Communist Party Committee, is under way in Stepanakert. The attacker fired 13 shots at Grigoryan with a hand-gun of Czechoslovak manufacture on August 10.

The investigators have refrained from comments. However, it's a general feeling in Stepanakert that the fact that Valeriy Grigoryan was an active backer of political negotiations with the Azerbaijani leadership in order to settle the conflict by peaceful means may explain his death. Speaking at a rally in the regional centre on August 8 he called for holding the elections of Azerbaijan's president in Nagorno-Karabakh.

'Political' Motive Suspected in Killing

LD1308055691 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 2106 GMT 12 Aug 91

[From the "Television News Service" program]

[Text] As we have already reported, Grigoryan, a former party functionary, was killed in Stepanakert on 10 August. In the opinion of the Azerbaijani state security employees, this killing was carried out for political reasons. It might have been caused by the beginning of a rapprochement between the Azerbaijani authorities and representatives of the Armenian community in Nagorno-Karabakh—a fact that does not please the leaders of the Armenian nationalists. Lately, Grigoryan was one of the active advocates for settling the Nagorno-Karabakh problem by political methods and was a member of the delegation from the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast at the meeting with Azerbaijan President Ayaz Mutalibov, which was held in Baku recently. So far the killers have not been found. A search is under way.

Last Azeri Group 'Driven Out' of Armenian Town

NC1308103691 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 1700 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Text] The last group of Azerbaijanis was driven out of Nyuvedi town in Armenia's Megrinskiy Rayon on 8 August. The Azerbaijan Committee for State Security has disclosed that preparations were made for this operation in Armenia long ago. Everything was done to achieve this objective. In fact, the town was besieged and attacked by armed men from time to time. Several of its residents were killed and a number of people were taken hostage.

The situation was normalized to a certain degree after the deployment of the Soviet Army units in Nyuvedi. But later it was artificially strained once again by the nationalist circles in Armenia. The extremists did not even hesitate to kill two of the officers of the military unit in Nyuvedi. Failing to achieve their objective through pressure, the Armenian leaders made imperious demands for the withdrawal of the military servicemen from the town.

The military servicemen ended the effort they made to defend the residents of Nyuvedi against the Armenian banditry groups and left the town the night of 7-8 August. The officials of the command headquarters of the [word indistinct] group in Armenia immediately moved to demand that the residents of Nyuvedi leave Armenia, saying that they were unable to guarantee their security.

Nearly 30 percent of the residents of Nyuvedi departed from the town in their own cars and crossed into Azerbaijan. The remaining residents traveled to the nearby railway station in Nyuvedi and demanded to be transported to Azerbaijan. Railway passenger cars were provided to transport the refugees from Armenia on the same night. It has been reported that the (?special) group of the Armenian Ministry of Internal Affairs took over the control of Nyuvedi as soon as the residents left the town. The operation was headed by Grigoryan, deputy minister of internal affairs of Armenia.

Enlarged Council of Ministers Meeting Reported

NC1308104291 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 1700 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Text] The Azerbaijan Republic Council of Ministers held an enlarged meeting on 8 August. President Ayaz

Mutalibov participated in the convocation. The question of how to implement the work carried out by the republic's government—in the light of the decision adopted by the USSR Council of Ministers and the sovereign republics on the main ways to remove the economic crisis in the Soviet Union—was the only item on the agenda.

Gasan Gasanov, prime minister of the republic, read a report. Speeches were made. President Mutalibov summed up the meeting. Rasi-zade, first deputy prime minister of the republic; Gadzhiyev and Rodayev, deputy prime ministers; and Abdullayev and [name indistinct], secretaries of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee, participated in the meeting.

Further on Explosions at Ammunition Depot

LD1208174591 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 1630 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] A TASS correspondent was informed at the USSR Ministry of Defense press center that on 10 August, at 1415, a fire took place at one of the artillery ammunition depots of the Transcaucasus military okrug, which later caused an explosion. This was the result of a flagrant violation of safety measures by soldiers who were part of a team working at the depot. A significant amount of ammunition has been destroyed as a result. Some servicemen have been wounded. No deaths have yet been registered. Material losses are being evaluated. Some residential houses and other buildings at the Salogly railway station and the Salogly settlement of the Azerbaijan republic have been damaged.

Measures have been taken to eliminate the consequences of the fire and the explosion of ammunition. The local residents and servicemens' families whose houses were affected by the explosion are being given material aid.

Nagorno-Karabakh Passport Verification Renewed

OW1308011891 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1430 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Passport verification is renewed in Nagorno-Karabakh. According to an "INTERFAX" correspondent, Azerbaijan OMON [Special Purpose Militia Detachment] units together with the Army troops started attacking the Armenian villages of Askeransky area. Searches, beating of citizens and apartments pogroms are under way. There are detained people but the number of them is unknown.

In the settlement of Ovsepavan in the neighbourhood of the Azerbaijan village of Khogjaly OMON terrorists have detained almost all the residents and the builders from Stepanakert who worked there. All detained in the bus were brought away in an unknown direction.

According to our information the Interior forces of the Regional Commandant's Headquarters do not take part in passport verification and the Azerbaijan OMON units do not coordinate their activities with them. According to the preliminary information the Soviet Army units stationed in Azerbaijan regions in the neighbourhood of Nagorno-Karabakh support the punitive actions in Armenian settlements.

Geological Committee for Republic Established

NC0708085891 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 1700 GMT 5 Aug 91

[Text] President Ayaz Mutalibov has issued a decree converting the Azerbaijan Geological Production Union, which is affiliated to the USSR Ministry of Geology, into a committee to be known as the Azerbaijan State Committee for Geological and Mineral Resources. (?A. Pochinskiy) has been appointed chairman of the new committee.

Train Derails in Republic, Spills Fuel Oil

LD0808155991 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 1100 GMT 8 Aug 91

[Text] We have just received a report that today at 0045 39 tanks of fuel oil on freight train 2532 were derailed while approaching the station at Kazi-Magomed. As a result, ten switches and 300 meters of track have been damaged, and movement of trains on the stretch between Mingechaur Alyat and Aly-Bayramly has been disrupted.

Fuel oil from damaged tankers leaked on the ground. A commission from the Ministry of Railways has been set up to investigate the reasons for the accident and to eliminate its consequences.

Central Asian Presidents To Meet 14 Aug

OW1208112191 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1030 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] On August 13 the presidents of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan will arrive in Tashkent to take part in the meeting for Central Asian republican leaders, set for August 14.

The leaders—Nursultan Nazarbayev, Islam Karimov, Askar Akayev, Kakhar Makhkamov and Saparmurad Niyazov—aim to discuss the Union treaty and ways of stabilising the situation in Soviet Central Asia. In the course of the meeting they hope to complete the agreement on economic, scientific/technical and cultural cooperation between Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan, which they signed on July 23 last year in Alta-Ata.

Kazakhstan

Republic KGB Chairman Interviewed, Denies Rumors

LD0908194391 Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 13 Jul 91 p 5

["Follow the Letter and Spirit of the Law:" N.A. Vdovin, chairman of the KGB of the Kazakh Soviet Socialist Republic, member of the Cabinet of Ministers, replies to questions from observer T. Kostina]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted]

Q. At one time there was a rumor that the Unity [Yedinstvo] movement was created by the KGB. Then there was another rumor that Azat was a child of the KGB. I would like to know—are there now in the republic any political organizations set up and financed by your department?

A. It is completely unambiguous: neither now nor previously did the republic's KGB undertake the setting up and financing of any political organizations, movements etc.

In my view, the appearance of Azat and Yedinstvo is a natural, elemental process in the framework of political pluralism, a reflection of the standpoints and opinions of various ethnic groups of the population. It is important here not to go along the road of confrontation, but to search for mutually acceptable solutions. After all, the representatives of the above-mentioned movements want first and foremost to help the republic find a way out of the present situation in the economy and thereby overcome the crisis. [passage omitted]

Q. Does the concept of "ideological subversion" exist today? If it is not something from the past, then in what area of human relations can it be carried out today, in your view?

A. The freeing of interstate relations from the influence of ideological contradictions does not in any way mean that the opposition of ideas is disappearing, that the struggle for "the minds" of people is subsiding. This is an objective process. Our enemy by no means refrains from using psychological methods in his aspiration to violate the existing parity of forces to his advantage. They even have their theorists who work out various doctrines of "psychological warfare." I will quote one example. In the recommendations of the G. Bush administration, "Mandate for leadership-3," it says literally the following: "Possibilities must be sought to make use of Muslim fundamentalism in Kazakhstan and the Central Asian republics of Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkemnia and Uzbekistan. This can be carried out by means of involving experienced Afghan mujahidin.... These mujahidin could assist the population of the Soviet Central Asian republics to organize illegal political movements." Psychological pressure on our people is carried out in the most varied spheres, sometimes far removed from ideology. I am far from wanting to whip up fear, but in contemporary conditions we must be extremely vigilant and not renounce our great moral values, which have saved us in the harshest times.

Q. What directions of activity of the Western [secret] services can we talk about today in relation to Kazakhstan?

A. The special services are interested in many things in Kazakhstan: the economic potential of the republic, military sites, the political situation, inter-ethnic relations, the state of the economy in conditions of the transfer to market relations. At present, in connection with the expansion of foreign economic links of the republic with foreign countries, the opportunities for intelligence work have considerably increased. The KGB of the Kazakh Soviet Socialist Republic is taking appropriate measures to prevent political and economic damage being done, while at the same time not to hinder developing all-round contacts with foreign countries. [passage omitted]

Q. And now a bit about those areas in which the public is always interested. Does your department listen in to telephone conversations of citizens and read through their correspondence? Can we feel safe in our homes, and is it really true, as rumor has it, that every fourth or fifth person in the republic is an informer collaborating with you?

A. The KGB has at its disposal a certain arsenal of special means which it uses at work. This is essential. After all, the fight against persons breaking the law is not a simple matter. Among them there are technically trained people armed with the experience of foreign mafia structures. You can't do anything bare-handed in these matters. [passage omitted]

As for listening to telephone conversations, I state again with full responsibility, that honest Soviet people can be absolutely unconcerned.

And the last thing in your question. In retelling, as you noted, rumors, you called 1.5-2 million people of Kazakhstan "informers." Honest Soviet patriots who in the years of the Great Patriotic War helped the rapid discovery of Hitler saboteurs sent into Guryev Oblast; the heroic woman, an ordinary worker, who displayed vigilance in discovering in Alma-Ata in the 50's a major American spy dropped by plane into the territory of Moldavia; ordinary citizens, sacrificing their time and leisure, who helped at one time to unmask the espionage activity of the West German "correspondent" Martina Kischke. What are they, informers? Especially those who, at the risk of their life, help unmask members of organized criminal groups. Would not you yourself, encountering such a situation, report your suspicions? Those people cannot reply to you. I will reply for them. As Chairman of the KGB of the Kazakh Soviet Socialist Republic I express to all honest and honorable Soviet people who afford help to the state security agencies my profound gratitude for their love of the homeland, their concern for the happiness and tranquillity of all our citizens. [passage omitted]

Q. One more question. What lies behind the right to create information systems: Computer files on everyone, or...?

A. Information systems are being created to improve analytical work. For comparing various aspects of subversive activity of special services and seeking the casual link between individual facts, signs and events of their intelligence activity.

When security policemen are asked whether files are kept on people, it becomes simply awkward for those who believe it. Neither ordinary nor computer files on everyone, I confirm, were or are kept in our agencies. Perhaps in some other countries...But not in our country. Will we not be accused of lagging behind "civilised" countries in this as well? [passage omitted]

Q. "...In this organisation there is so much grayness and fools that some insignificant achievements against this background looked like a great success." And another quotation: "Total espionage, thousands and thousands of agents abroad, constant inflation of the apparatus, expansion of schools and training courses...." As you can probably guess, that was said about the KGB and about our country. And it was said by your former colleague O.O. Gordiyevskiy in an interview with SOBESEDNIK. What would you say on this score?

A. I do not feel like answering this question, but since it has been posed.... At all times and in all peoples, turncoats and traitors have been regarded identically with contempt. But some of our mass media, performing a dizzying moral somersault, are offering their pages to these renegades. What is more, their utterances and descriptions are presented as revelations and unchallengable postulates. The entire history of the organs of state security speaks for itself and its staff. In the years of the Great Patriotic War, together with the whole Soviet people, at the front and in the rear, our security police fought a sly and cunning foe. [passage omitted]

Q. One often hears it said that in your department there are ordinary people working, and that they live and work for the ordinary people. What forms are there of interaction? Does the KGB receive citizens? What questions do people approach you for?

A. We receive citizens round the clock on any questions. Last year 423 people approached us and we received 2,276 letters (in the first half of this year there have already been about 2,500). Not one letter went unanswered. Where necessary the statements, requests and complaints are directed to other departments according to their relevance, and the applicant is informed of that. We also get thank-you letters.

People trust us. That's what makes the job worthwhile.

Republic Unemployment Expected To Double Soon

LD1208180991 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 1200 GMT 12 Aug 91

[From the "Television News Service" program]

[Excerpt] There are over 700,000 unemployed in the Republic [of Kazakhstan]. This figure is expected to more than double in the very near future. Here, in the capital of Kazakhstan, almost 12,000 persons are unable to find work. This kind of scene has become familiar to the people of Alma-Ata. [video shows people waiting outside building] This is the premises of the Directorate of Labor and Social Protection or, simply, the Labor Exchange. [Unidentified speaker] So far, 890 small enterprises already exist, have already been registered in Alma-Ata. There are 1,750 cooperatives. So on the whole, everyone will be guaranteed a job. In addition, we also have an extra 14,000 jobs at enterprises and organizations. The problem of women's employment policy is particularly acute in the city. So we are taking additional measures to create additional part-time jobs at enterprises in the local light industrial sector. [passage omitted] [video shows computers and people registering at exchange]

Kyrgyzstan

Party Activity in Republic's MVD Banned

LD1208174691 Bishkek Radio Bishkek Network in Russian 1300 GMT 12 aug 91

[Text] A party conference of the structural subdivisions of rayon, town, and oblast departments of the republican Ministry of Internal Affairs [MVD] was held in Bishkek today. There was just one item on the agenda: discontinuing party activity. Yesterday, party meetings with the same agenda were held in all primary party organizations of the ministry. A decision was made at these meetings by an overwhelming majority that officials of the law-enforcement organs should not be members of

any party. The conference unanimously passed a resolution on discontinuing party activity in the republic's internal affairs organs. Taking part in the work of the conference were Kyrgyz Communist Party Central Committee Secretary Artemov and Bishkek Party Committee First Secretary (?Eshmanbetov).

Enterprises Placed Under Local Jurisdiction

LD1208125291 Moscow All-Union Radio First Program Radio-1 Network in Russian 0900 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Text] Kyrgyz President Akayev has signed a decree on the transition of Union enterprises to the republic's jurisdiction. All enterprises and organizations situated on the territory of Kyrgyzstan have been placed under local jurisdiction. The exception is all activity that guarantees definite Union functions.

Tajikistan

Tajikistan, Turkmenistan Sign Treaty 12 Aug

LD1208122591 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1044 GMT 12 Aug 91

[By a TADZHIKTA-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Dushanbe, 12 Aug (TASS)—The presidents of Turkmenistan and Tajikistan have put their signatures to a treaty on inter-state relations between the two republics. The signing took place today in Dushanbe. The document provides for mutually beneficial cooperation in political, economic, cultural, ecological, humanitarian and other fields of public and political life, on a strictly equal-rights footing.

The treaty stresses that the parties guarantee equality of rights for all nations and peoples living on their territories, that they condemn any manifestations of national egoism or national intolerance, and that they commit themselves to take resolute measures to prevent interethnic conflicts or attempts to restrict the rights of peoples. Economic, scientific-technical, and cultural relations are to be regulated by inter-governmental agreements and one has already been signed. It refers to the inadmissibility of economic and other forms of pressure on the sovereignty of the contracting parties, and to strict harmonization of their actions in the event of changes in retail and purchase prices or of other forms of regulating market relations.

A joint working commission comprising prominent academics and politologists as well as sociologists, legal experts and economists has been set up to devise a broad cooperation program.

Makhkamov, Niyazov Comment

LD1208194391 Moscow All-Union Radio First Program Radio-1 Network in Russian 1600 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Interview with Tajik President Kakhar Makhkamovich Makhkamov and Turkmen President Saparmurad Atayevich Niyazov by station correspondent Muzafar Madzhidov on 12 August following signing of treaty on interstate relations in Dushanbe—recorded]

[Text] [Madzhidov] The signing of the treaty between the two republics is probably a kind of springboard to the signing of a Union treaty, and the inhabitants of Tajikistan and Turkmenistan can hope that the situation will change both politically and economically and that they will live better.

[Makhkamov] The political and economic situation between Tajikistan and Turkmenia has been very good and very stable. The treaty signed today seals this legally—on political questions for ten years and on economic questions for the 1992-1995 period. I think that today we have opened a new page in the history of the mutual relations between our republics—Turkmenia and Tajikistan—and it will now give us the opportunity to work more openly and boldly for the further development of both our republics for the benefit of our peoples.

[Niyazov] It is very difficult, generally speaking, to link our treaty with the Union treaty, but the fact that horizontal ties have emerged between the republics is one of the factors reaffirming the declarations on independence and sovereignty which have been adopted. We consider that this is correct. It is not only today's desires, but also the economic and political situation which has arisen in the country as a whole, which is urging rapprochement between the republics. If a Union treaty is concluded then of course it will contribute to the speediest implementation of our horizontal ties and the treaties which we have concluded with great pleasure today. We know that Tajiks and Turkmenians have for centuries lived as neighbors, and there have been no subjects of social dispute or differences. The two peoples have lived in unity and friendship. Today, having more profound understanding, and taking into consideration the social and economic development of our republics today, we have signed an agreement, as Kakhar Makhkamovich said, on economic cooperation for five years, and a political agreement for 10 years, in which all the socio-political life in our republic and ways for interaction are provided for. This is a very good agreement, and in it we recognize a renewed Union and the need to conclude a Union agreement with equal rights for the Union republics, and it will, of course, also contribute to the accelerated signing of a Union agreement.

'Resistance' to Republic Leasing Law Reported

LD1308090691 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 0500 GMT 13 Aug 91

[Text] By decree of Tajik President Makhkamov, urgent measures have been defined for implementing the republican legislation on leasing. As practice has shown, observances of the law adopted eight months ago is coming up

against resistance—first and foremost in agriculture. As noted in the document, the heads of the collective and state farms are obstructing, without cause, the work of people who wish to farm independently.

The decree establishes the personal responsibility of the heads of local soviet bodies, of collective and state farms and their subsidiaries for the unconditional observance of requirements set forth in the law on leasing.

Turkmenistan

Supreme Soviet's Union Treaty Approval Detailed

LD1008183491 Ashkhabad Radio Ashkhabad Network in Turkmen 1600 GMT 9 Aug 91

[Excerpts] The eighth extraordinary session of the Turkmen Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] Supreme Soviet's 12th convocation was held on 9 August in Ashkhabad. The session started work at 1100 at the Supreme Soviet's assembly hall. The session was opened by Muradov, chairman of the Turkmen SSR Supreme Soviet. [passage omitted]

The session confirmed the following agenda on various questions concerning:
—Recognition of the authority of deputies of the Turkmen SSR elected on 14 July 1991;
—Confirmation of the agreed Treaty on the Union of Sovereign States;
—Confirmation of the friendship and cooperation agreement between the Turkmen SSR and the Uzbek SSR;
—Confirmation of the friendship and cooperation agreement between the Turkmen SSR and the Republic of Kyrgyzstan;
—Abolition of the administrative subordination of (?Elip) settlement to the Charshanga settlement [posyolog] soviet of people's soviets and creating a settlement soviet of people's deputies there. [passage omitted]

After that, the session began to examine the main question—the question of the Treaty of the Union of Sovereign States. Niyazov, president of the Turkmen SSR, read a report. [passage omitted] The Supreme Soviet adopted the decision on the conclusion reached on questions discussed, and approved the Treaty of the Union of Sovereign States, giving power to President Niyazov to sign the treaty. [passage omitted] After a discussion of speeches, the Supreme Soviet of the Turkmen SSR confirmed both agreements. [passage omitted]

At the end of the session Niyazov, president of the Turkmen SSR, expressed his opinion to people's deputies on draft documents being worked out in connection with the (?marketing) of raw materials. They approved these drafts.

With this the eighth extraordinary session of the Turkmen SSR Supreme Soviet's 12th convocation concluded its work.

More on Approval of Union Treaty

LD0908174291 Moscow Central Television Vostok Program and Orbita Networks in Russian 1530 GMT 9 Aug 91

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] The eighth extraordinary session of the Supreme Soviet of the Turkmen Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] took place in Ashkhabad today. [video shows the Supreme Soviet in session with the president addressing delegates]

[Correspondent Z. Zapolskaya] A draft in accordance with the Treaty on the Union of Sovereign States was submitted for discussion. The ratification of the treaties of friendship and cooperation between the Turkmen SSR and the Uzbek SSR as well as that between the Turkmen SSR and the Republic of Kyrgyzstan was also on the agenda.

At last, the long-awaited light has appeared at the end of the lengthy tunnel where so many passions raged. The path to the Union treaty has been long and far from easy, even during the final decisive hours of the Novo-Ogarevo marathon which went on for many months and about which Saparmurad Atayevich Niyazov, president of the republic, informed deputies.

In the course of discussions, the deputies spoke of the problematic areas, topics where agreement is yet to be reached, the disruption of deliveries, financial confusion, and that huge mass of problems which no one can solve in isolation. Indisputably the main thing is this—the republic is in favor of transforming our state into a union of equal sovereign states where the full sovereignty of its subjects and the incontrovertible right of nations and of peoples to self-determination is guaranteed. Nevertheless, the republic's deputies can see their own path for development within the Union which conforms both to the traditions, the way of life, and the whole scale of specific particularities—including territorial, natural, climatic, and ethnic ones—that should not be ignored.

The deputies unanimously adopted the decree approving the Treaty on the Union of Sovereign States. Saparmurad Atayevich Niyazov was authorized to sign the treaty on behalf of the Turkmen SSR.

Uzbekistan

Birlik Denounces 'Provocation, Forgery' Attempts

OW1308050591 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1430 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Uzbek Interior Ministry's press-centre spread the information that a 19-year-old Uzbek girl, worker of one of the local factories in Kokand (Fergana region)

appealed to the City Interior Department with an application that she was raped. According to the Uzbek Interior Ministry late in the evening when the girl was coming home from her work several young men enforced her into a car and brought her to the City's House of Culture the place of the recent location of the people's movement "Birlik's" headquarters. As they stressed in the Interior Ministry's press-centre "the victim has been a subject of enjoyment for the ruffians with the 'Birlik's' cards for 6 days".

Just before that information from the Uzbek Interior Ministry there was a statement of "Birlik" in "INTERFAX" that a provocation against the movement was under way.

Ismail Dadadianov, one of the leaders of the city "Birlik" organization in Kokand, described the launched accusation as "forgery". According to him the main aim of that fuss is to justify the attack on the "Birlik" headquarters made by the Interior Ministry on August 6. According to his information the operation was headed by Ghuliam Fazilov, the first secretary of the regional committee of the Uzbek communist party.

Bakhtier Khasanov, the member of "Birlik", is among the detained. He has been already arrested for the fifth time accused of the gravest crimes including murder, rape and drugs keeping. As the "Birlik's" press-service stated all the criminal cases launched against the activists of the movement have led to nothing and resulted in apology and compensation payments.

Parliamentarian Decries Journalist's 'Persecution'

OW1308005191 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1430 GMT 12 Aug 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The chairman of the "Erk" party, the member of the Uzbek Parliament and the writer, Muhammad Salikh spoke against persecution of journalist in the republic in the meeting with the public in Tashkent. He said that he will not allow the exclusion of the journalist, Kudrat Bobodgjanov, from the Writers' Union who contributed the information about the fire of the car of Erkin Vakhidov, the member of the republican Parliament, to "Komsomolskaya Pravda".

Salikh said that he and some other members of the Writers' Union were interrogated in the republican KGB as witnesses on the case of the fire of the Vakhidov's car.

Republic Aide Cited on Spring Call-Up Statistics

PM1208104191 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 8 Aug 91 First Edition p 4

[Reply to reader's question by Doctor of Juridical Sciences B. Kasymov, chief of Department for Military Mobilization Work of Uzbek president's apparatus: "Depending How You Count"]

[Text] Your newspaper recently carried information from the General Staff Main Directorate about the spring draft in Uzbekistan. At the same time, IZVESTIYA cites different data. Which are correct?

[signed] Major S. Tarasevich, Tashkent

Doctor of Juridical Sciences B. Kasymov, chief of the Department for Military Mobilization Work of the Uzbek SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic] president's apparatus:

On the total number of youths from Uzbekistan drafted in the spring we have no discrepancies with the USSR Armed Forces General Staff. But views differ somewhat on determining the percentage compared with the draft quota. The General Staff deduces it from the roster which it determined for our republic without taking into account the agreement it concluded this year with the republic government.

According to this agreement we have overfulfilled the quota of Uzbeks drafted into combat and special units by 1.8 percent. The youths will serve in various military districts and in our country's fleets. As for the draft for the military construction brigades, the agreement states that military construction workers drafted from Uzbekistan should serve only on the territory of the republic. We believe that we have fulfilled the roster 100 percent. If new military construction detachments are set up in the republic, an idea that was discussed at our recent meeting with Marshal of the Soviet Union D.T. Yazov, the USSR minister of defense, we are willing to make up their numbers from our draftees.

Uzbekistan firmly stands by the positions in the Union treaty, and unequivocally supports united Armed Forces.

Shifting Public Sentiments in Karakalpakstan Eyed

PM1208105991 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Aug 91 First Edition p 2

[Adilbek Kaipbergenov report under "Own Correspondent's Column" rubric: "Which Way the Pendulum Will Swing"]

[Text] Nukus—Two victories of perestroyka are beyond doubt: It is possible to speak about everything, and public opinion has begun to be of interest to the powers that be. Here are a few observations on the latter point.

Since the mid-eighties, when the group of USSR Prosecutor's Office investigators which later became famous through the names of its leaders began operating in the Karakalpak Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic, as well as throughout Uzbekistan, the pendulum of public opinion in the autonomous republic has repeatedly swung from one side to the other. I remember that at first the press, particularly the central press, carried sensational news for its readers almost every day: recalled..., arrested..., valuables confiscated....

As a rule, local newspapers reprinted extensive articles, interviews, and reportages. Then a counterblast ensued—yesterday's accusers found themselves under attack. Those same mass media were doing the attacking. Public opinion responded appropriately, as it were, to such pressure—through 180 degrees.

The majority of the former high-ranking party, soviet, and economic leaders have been freed from criminal liability and have returned to their homes and families. And this is probably the supreme justice of the rule-of-law state which has been declared our goal: If something is not proven, you are not guilty.

While in Karakalpakstan recently I noticed a new trend. People's sentiments seem again to be changing abruptly. And the reasons, paradoxical though this may sound, are connected with the names of those who have suffered.

Kallibek Kamalov, 65 years old, who for more than 20 years was first secretary of Karakalpak Oblast party committee, returned to Nukus at the beginning of this year. In December 1989 the USSR Supreme Court had sentenced him to 15 years' imprisonment for bribetaking in an intensified-regime colony, with confiscation of his property.

The newspaper TRUD described in quite great detail the cordial welcome which the present leaders of the republic gave the former first secretary right by the aircraft steps in the airport, interrupting their regular session for the sake of this. Since then the elderly leader has evidently rested and restored his health, if people in Nukus today are talking in earnest of the possibility of his return to the leadership arena.

There are precedents: Some heroes of scandalous affairs have reoccupied chiefs' seats. The present activeness of "former" people is becoming a serious problem for the local leadership. Dauletbay Shamshetov, first secretary of the Uzbek Communist Party Republic Committee and chairman of the republic Supreme Soviet, dwelt on it in detail when he addressed a recent meeting of Karakalpakstan's party aktiv.

He pointed out that during the struggle against negative phenomena in the recent past, proceedings were instituted against innocent leading workers as well as the really guilty persons, and there was tendentiousness and prejudice. But now the reverse picture is to be observed. Those same people's courts and the Supreme Courts of Karakalpakstan and Uzbekistan are releasing and acquitting almost all those against whom proceedings were instituted earlier and are demanding their unconditional reinstatement in their former posts. But at the same time account must be taken of the fact that public opinion is frequently inclined against this, inasmuch as people believe that it was not without grounds that proceedings were instituted against some of them in the past and they categorically protest at their reinstatement.

Time will show whether this way of posing the problem will help to remove tension. But one thing can, I believe, be stated confidently today: In Karakalpakstan, which is small in terms of size of population but not in terms of the number of problems, public opinion is beginning to "think for itself."

In this connection I can make a personal forecast for the future: Unless there are positive changes in the very near future in the socioeconomic situation, which is being exacerbated here also by the dead breath of the former Aral Sea, then the pendulum of public opinion will most likely soon swing—this time willfully—toward the opposite extreme.

Against the background of the present growing problems and the fall in the population's living standards, yesterday might strike not just "some people" but many people as almost heavenly. Such a powerful argument as human memory will work for the "former" people.

Only will this be of benefit? That is the question.